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Sobchak Calls On Yeltsin To Act on Land Ownership

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA reports that at a 25 July news conference St. Petersburg Mayor Anatoliy Sobchak criticized the idea of holding a referendum on land ownership because "our legislation does not automatically enshrine the results of a referendum in law." He asserted that "'there is another path'", by which President Yeltsin should use his "'extraordinary powers'" to "'change the law'" while the parliament is on vacation. Sobchak called on Yeltsin to "'adopt this decision, take the blame, adopt the decision.'"

Russian Military Official Warns of 'Silent Coup'

According to ITAR-TASS, Valeriy Ochirov, who is "second in command of the Russian Army Aviation," warned that "while a bloody putsch which would put troops on the streets is unlikely in Russia, the fragile democracy could be destroyed by a silent coup wrenching power away from radical reformers." He added that "the opposition, eager to force Yeltsin to toe its line, will try to win the hearts of disgruntled troops."

Russian Official Reveals Diminishing Tank Procurement

INTERFAX reports that the Russian Government has "placed an order for just 20 tanks this year," according to information provided by First Deputy Defense Minister Andrey Kokoshin. In 1988 "the USSR produced more than 3,200 tanks of which 2,800 were supplied to its armed forces, and the rest were exported." While acknowledging that "there is no need for so many tanks now," Kokoshin asserted that 20 tanks "are clearly not enough even for minimal regular replacements."

Byelarus To Sell Weapon Surpluses

INTERFAX reports that according to Mikhail Myasnikovich, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, "'Byelarus will sell only surpluses of its weapons'". Myasnikovich, who "firmly excludes any trade bargains with nuclear weapons", noted that these weapons "'will be withdrawn from the Byelarusian territory and destroyed in accordance with agreements achieved'".

Tajik Talks Result in Cease-Fire Agreement

INTERFAX reports that talks were held in Tajikistan on the conflict in Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Region and that a cease-fire agreement was signed. Dushanbe Radio reports that the participants in the talks, including Kulyab and Kurgan-Tyube regional leaders, "succeeded in achieving a comprehensive cease-fire, disarmament, end to hostage taking, and the pardoning of all participants in the latest tragedies." The cease-fire began on 28 July.

The participants issued a declaration accusing President Rakhmon Nabiyev of inactivity and "demanded his resignation." Nabiyev, who did not participate in the talks, was accused on taking "no action...to stop the bloodshed, and he has not even expressed condolences and sympathy for the families of those killed lately", reports Dushanbe Radio.

Estonian, Russian Servicemen Clash

ITAR-TASS reports that an armed clash took place between Estonian and Russian servicemen in Estonia on 27 July. According to Estonian Defense Minister Ulo Uluots, "Russian seamen and marines opened fire without warning and broke into the territory occupied by Estonian guards, disarmed them and injured them". The CIS Navy press service reported that "Estonian servicemen took the construction department of the Tallinn garrison under their own control on the grounds that Estonia wanted to prevent military property from being sold out." A government commission led by Minister of State Uno Veering has been set up to investigate the clashes. The Estonian Government "condemned the arbitrary actions of some individual defense force commanders."

Experts Want Antimissile Treaty Revised

OW2707124592 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1217 GMT 27 Jul 92

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The anti-missile defence treaty should be revised, since it hinders the implementation of the project for building a global defence system coordinated between the Russian and American Presidents. The International Security Council (ISC) said so in its resolution adopted in Washington recently on the results of a meeting between Russian and American experts.

According to the resolution, the anti-missile defence treaty will hinder not only the implementation of the project for building a global defence system, but also the efforts to work it out.

Those who share this view are Russian generals Gheliy Batenin and Viktor Samoilov; their American colleague Michael Dugan, former Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force; Aleksandr Savelyev, Deputy Director of the Moscow Institute for Strategic Studies; Joseph Churba, President of the ISC; Ambassador Henry Cooper, Director of the Strategic Defence Initiative Organization; Stepan Sulakshin, President Yeltsin's personal representative in the Tomsk region and one of the leading scientists in high-power lasers and space technologies; and a number of other Russian and American experts.

What underlies the anti-missile defence treaty is the idea that the two sides will refrain from building global anti-missile systems, including a global defence system, Aleksandr Savelyev, Deputy Director of the Moscow Institute for Strategic Studies, told DP's [Diplomatic Panorama's] correspondent.

According to him, the very idea of global defence system conflicts with the idea of the anti-missile defence treaty. "Because of this the treaty becomes an obstacle".

Besides, there is a "purely technical" reason. The anti-missile defence treaty doesn't make it possible to deploy the most effective systems of protection against ballistic missiles, such as a space-based system. This involves not only "interceptors", that is "strike weapons", but also targeting, spotting and escorting systems. "These systems are indispensable in creating reliable defence".

"I don't quite understand those who speak in favor of preserving the anti-missile defence treaty and at the same time call for launching together with the U.S. work designed to build a global defence system", said A. Savelyev.

According to him, this discrepancy must not be ignored. "Signed during the Cold War in order to halt the arms race, the anti-missile defence treaty was good for its time but it has already played its role". Now it becomes an obstacle to the development of Russian-American relations.

A. Savelyev believes that this issue requires a radical solution. "The new quality of the Russian-American relationship points to the need to work out new agreements that would make it possible to carry out joint work and confirm the present level of bilateral relations".

Institute Head Views Japan's Plutonium Reactor

LD2707090392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0745 GMT 27 Jul 92

[By TASS observer Veronika Romanenkova]

[Text] Moscow July 27 TASS—The development and the creation of a nuclear reactor capable of producing electricity through burning plutonium, which is left over as a result of dismantling nuclear weapons of the former Soviet Union, is profitable from the economic point of view, but is politically dangerous. The director of the Institute of Safe Development of Nuclear Power, Leonid Bolshov, told ITAR-TASS "the use of plutonium for commercial purposes will require the same strict control as in the case of its military production". If plutonium is used as a fuel for a nuclear reactor, a sharp rise in the threat of terrorism is not ruled out. Although this danger is obvious, but not the only one.

The idea of the creation of such a reactor exists since long. But according to Leonid Bolshov, the research work in this sphere in Russia and the U.S. and Japan still remains in its initial stage. Besides this, the fuel preparation technology also needs a considerable degree of perfection as plutonium is a "chemically capricious" element.

Even then the Japanese Government decided to go ahead with the development of such a reactor, according to reports published recently in Japanese newspapers. The site of the new reactor's construction is yet to be finalised, but, probably, it will be built on the Russian territory. This report was said to have been based on the recent G-7 Munich Summit's declaration which clearly mentioned "provision of help to Russia in destroying nuclear facilities".

But after all what lies behind Japan's "support" proposal to Russia in the creation of a new reactor? It seems most logical that Russia will accept the "help" from its neighbour, and the Japanese Government, which is interested in cooperation, will provide the finances for the development works. But most probably, the Japanese will get the right to conduct the research work.

Firstly, because it will be profitable to the Japanese Government: An unusual reactor (Japan's priority), new technologies and materials will be created, science will make a considerable headway, and a large number of scientists, engineers and technologists will get jobs. Such an agreement will please Japanese specialists as well. They will receive finances from the state (a tough struggle is on in Japan to get a right to fulfill a government order) and they will be busy with an interesting project for a long time to come.

Thus, money will actually never reach Russia.

As far as Russian specialists are concerned, according to the Ministry of Atomic Energy's estimates, they themselves are capable of creating a plutonium reactor. But at present Russian nuclear scientists have too many of urgent work to attend to. First of all, they have to ensure the maximum safety of functioning nuclear power plants. At present Russia has nine of them with 28 energy generating blocks. Besides it, they are experiencing financial difficulties. According to the Atomic Energy Ministry, the involvement of foreign investments can only expedite the process of finding a solution to the reliability problems of our nuclear power plants by our specialists.

'Military Observer' on Rocket Forces' Plight

PM2407110192 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jul 92 pp 1, 2

[Military Observer Colonel Viktor Baranets article: "The Nuclear Cuckoo's Cry. Missile Shield or a Gravestone?"]

[Text] Do you recall how, until very recently, ICBM's were being served as a "dessert" at the end of military parades in Red Square? Awe-inspiring and majestic, our nuclear behemoths, lovingly fostered through hard work and tribulations by geniuses in secret conditions, trundled across the sacred pavement.

Ah ha, some reader might say, here we have yet another "hawk" who will preach nostalgically about the good old times when our missiles defiantly threatened the world, but I am not about to do this. Only a manic militarist can fail to realize that the time has come for us and the Americans alike to firmly reduce the size of our nuclear swords. But whereas the process of destroying surplus missiles generally fails to produce any acute headaches in the States, we at times resemble someone who has pulled the pin of a nuclear grenade and is holding it in his hands, not knowing what to do next. In other words: While wanting to reduce the size of the burdensome nuclear shield, we often do this so clumsily that it can easily be transformed from a means of protection into a communal gravestone.

For more than 30 years the Strategic Rocket Forces [SRF] were the object of our special concern. During the fifties the Union was forced to respond to the nuclear challenge of the United States, which was so proud of its nuclear might that it looked down on the Union like an elephant looks down on a tiny insect. And how! More than 200 Soviet cities were in U.S. nuclear sights, but this did not last long. Since the beginning of time, Russia's muzhiks have disliked having their noses tweaked by conceited foreigners. Shifting their brains in high gear, their military-patriotic complex blew such a missile raspberry in reply that U.S. strategists were unable to rest for decades.

For almost a third of a century, the Americans and we chased one another in the infernal missile marathon.

But mankind will always remember something else as well: We were the first to come to our senses on the edge of the nuclear abyss in which the Earth's surface could have disintegrated like an overripe watermelon. The planet heaved a sigh of relief when both we and the Americans started cutting back.

No matter what we may think of Gorbachev today, there is no escaping the truth: It was under him that the arms race was transformed into a disarmament race. But even under him we were the first to trample the holy of holies: We betrayed the principle of equal, fair, and symmetrical reduction of nuclear arsenals. That was a concession closely resembling treason.

As for the Americans, they adopted an unbelievably strict approach toward "missile stripping," each time going for some advantage—maybe only the tiniest, but an advantage nonetheless—for themselves, aiming to somehow dupe us. Under Gorbachev's leadership we got carried away by this striptease to the point where we undertook to recklessly "cut" almost 1,000 nuclear warheads more than the Americans. Flattered by America, the champion of disarmament signed yet another "celebrated" agreement on missile cutbacks and made our country look stupid. The U.S. generals joyfully clapped their hands and toasted Mikhail Sergeyevich's health with sweet champagne. Their Soviet counterparts had to swallow bitter pills.

Even our fiercest enemies admitted that this was a monstrous mistake.

Be that as it may, however—the process got under way. The Belovezhskaya earthquake occurred while it was at its height, the Union collapsed, and its debris rained down upon the SRF hitting men, weapons, and equipment—the entire multistory system for ensuring normal operations by the strategic missile complexes, which had already suffered serious damage as a result of the gigantic and utter chaos of perestroyka. The war of sovereignties engendered the threat of destroying the SRF's integrity. This was compounded by the onset of shortages of the (already meager) financial resources. The defense industry was in grave turmoil; the old system of exceptionally fine-tuned technological links and maintenance started creaking. The level of manpower acquisition regarding subunits' officers and rank and file personnel started dropping. Social and everyday life problems were acutely aggravated. To put it briefly, the strategic forces were unable to avoid the bitter cup of the consequences of the major political and economic destruction sweeping the country. All this was happening not in some inoffensive soap factory but in the nuclear missile shop which operates around the clock and incessantly monitors, second by second, the "heartbeat" of systems, the weakest of which carries the charge of 10 "Hiroshima's."

Power in our country changed hands almost a year ago, and it is almost six months since the fickle, capricious, and sickly CIS came into being. Four of its members—

Byelarus, Kazakhstan, Russia, and Ukraine—are chockfull with nuclear missiles, but it still lacks a single strategic document, a military doctrine, and laws in line with which this entire mighty setup could exist. True enough, there are some agreements, but they are not being fulfilled by all sides. This as well is fraught with the monstrous threat of a nuclear risk. It was certainly no accident that back when the sovereignty of the CIS nuclear countries was conceived, the Americans were quick to figure out how it all might develop. They immediately promised us more than $400 million to organize the destruction of missiles being cut back, while some of our nuclear leading lights were offered (in exchange for hard greenbacks) places in joint scientific research projects.

Specifically, there was talk of joint work on individual systems for the SDI in which, so it is said, they had already pumped more than $20 billion. Somehow it all came to a standstill—it proved more than they could cope with. Enter, just at the right time, the clever Russian guys who initially produced devices capable of penetrating the multilayer U.S. system and now will probably tackle the reverse—seeking methods to combat "the Fatherland's" MIRV's (multiple independently targeted warhead reentry vehicles) and to consolidate the nuclear scientific might of America, whose 51st state beneath the SDI umbrella will be, judging by everything, Mother Russia herself. Some altogether strange things are happening: We are taking care of improving the U.S. antimissile systems, and the Americans are taking care of the earliest possible destruction of our missiles, but not all of them. We promised to destroy our own SS-18's. The Americans already want to acquire them for their SDI. It would be interesting to find out whether the missiles will be handed over together with their combat crews. Generally speaking, things seem to work out according to the famous Russian proverb: "Give up your wife..."

The probability of accidents and disasters seems to have increased nowadays when, for numerous reasons beyond the rocket forces' control, the system for maintaining the complexes in order is in turmoil, even though the probability factor, according to specialists' estimates, is one in 30-300 years. This is only in theory; in practice, the missiles often pose riddles. All well and good if the crew manages to quickly determine which warhead or component should be replaced and does it. It does happen, however, that some instrument or component has to be urgently shipped to Russia from, say, Ukraine. At times people there, as the rocket forces' saying goes, "slam the door": "We do not have to do as you say. We are independent!" Time for entreaties and flatteries, and yet time is running out. It goes far beyond just parts and components. An attempt has already been made to bring an entire defense industry enterprise in Ukraine, producing means for protection against unsanctioned actions for the entire SRF, under that state's jurisdiction. SRF officers have told me that they have repeatedly had to resolve such problems by making offers that cannot be refused—in the shape of half-liter bottles. Can you imagine this: We have been reduced to using bottles of vodka and cognac to pay for the missiles' combat readiness and for our nuclear security. It would be apt to smirk if the issue concerned spares for, say, sewing machines or drinks dispensers, but we are talking about a supersensitive nuclear dragon, responding instantaneously even to a hair brushing against it. We are quickly running out of time to sober up after the sovereignty hangover and to realize: He who is severing the "blood vessels" which are the SRF's lifeline is also laying nuclear mine charges beneath the CIS.

Yes, Ukraine is an independent state. Yes, nobody has the right to dictate to it how to consolidate its own defense, but is there anyone who cannot realize that ripping out the nuclear umbilical cord of the system for the SRF's unified lifeline which was set up over decades just like that, by a single stroke, means lighting a fuse not only beneath the Ukrainians' beds but also beneath those of the Byelarusians, the Kazakhs, the Russians...

I am writing this on 4 July, and I ask myself: What is the "citizenship" of missiles with SRF units now deployed in Ukraine? Russian or Ukrainian? No answer is forthcoming. There are two captains hanging on to the nuclear ship's helm. One is steering to starboard, the other to port. Icebergs aplenty all around. Will we sail through?

The populist policy, which is recklessly invading the nuclear arms sphere and the SRF's operations system, frequently confuses the professionals. For the second time now, for example, the following statement has resounded sensationally around the world: Our strategic missiles are no longer targeted on the United States! I recall how, as soon as I heard this statement the first time, I telephoned a senior SRF officer and bluntly asked him:

"Was this question discussed with you in advance?"

The general replied:

"I am hearing about all this for the first time!"

Later on, another SRF officer of my acquaintance was to add on the same topic: "We were all agog for several days and nights until we were persuaded that this was 'only a trial balloon, a preliminary political statement.'" I would have understood such an extraordinary joke had I heard it on April Fool's Day, but we are talking about global politics. The world kept on guessing: If the Russian missiles are no longer targeted on the United States, where are they targeted? Nobody got a sensible answer. Washington again repeated the selfsame "sensational news" quite recently, but there is no such news. Some of our eager beaver journalists hastened to inform the world: As a sign of goodwill, we started withdrawing the SS-18's from alert duty even before the treaty was signed, but the reason for withdrawing them is different: scheduled cutbacks. And also because the missiles' lifeline system is malfunctioning.

I was told by many SRF veterans that, in the time of "rigid totalitarianism," all nuclear questions were elaborated very seriously and sensibly: Not a single decision,

not even on a trivial matter, was made at political level without the most thorough discussion with SRF specialists. Malfunctions were rare; there were no ill-wishers to gloat over them. Now it looks as if some politicians deem it undignified to listen to military specialists and try to remedy their own mistakes by placing a gigantic physical and moral overload on the missile forces. There are no guarantees that these weapons will not be fired.

Having loudly proclaimed to the world the latest missile cutbacks, today's politicians are actively earning Brownie points. The only insulting point is that we seem prepared to throw our entire missile shield at the Americans' feet as long as they rescue the situation by money and food handouts. It is insulting that, having firmly attached our screeching cart of reforms to fat America's gleaming carriage, we are abjectly sacrificing not only our missile might but also something that is equally important—our renown Russian dignity. But it seems to have already been transformed into a doormat.

The destruction of the surplus nuclear missile arsenal will demand colossal financial, material, technical, intellectual, and physical costs and a considerable amount of time. The main point at issue here is safety. In view of the defense industry enterprises' switch to financial autonomy and the laughable 6 percent "grant" for the SRF from the military budget, it is virtually impossible to guarantee total safety during the use and cutbacks of missiles. If there is no money, there are no spare parts, no specialists, no instruments, no full-scale maintenance. A missile, even though it has an electronic brain, is not worried about all these market problems. The destruction of economic ties and the collapse of the well organized defense infrastructures providing backup for the SRF have sharply reduced the threshold of our nuclear security. This gigantic burden is now weighing terribly on the strategic forces' shoulders. By some miracle they are just about managing to plug the gaps. In this context, one of the SRF's most experienced specialists on missile use told me bluntly and harshly:

"We are talking in terms of weeks. Months at best."

One can still understand the nuclear problems caused by the defense industry's disintegration. The ones that are impossible to understand are those we are creating for ourselves through thoughtlessness or someone's ill will.

We do have rail mobile combat missile launchers. These smartly camouflaged trains used to quietly move around the areas assigned to them. Maybe the Americans got fed up with tracking them; maybe our own courtiers—at the Americans' request—planted the "idea" with our top leadership, but the "trains" have been halted. And what has happened? We got them supposedly out of harm's way and they are now laid up almost on the banks of three mighty Russian rivers. But what if an aircraft or a helicopter were to crash down on them? How about sabotage? Someone might say: This can happen anywhere. I agree. Nuclear weapons are safe only in one case—when they do not exist. But why multiply the danger tenfold?

Our home-grown pacifists, "greens," and people of other diverse hues have been especially active in their offensive against the SRF in the last few years. At times, however, the struggle for a nuclear-free world waged by some public organizations is so mindless that it actually brings a nuclear catastrophe nearer instead of moving it further away. It seems to me that very soon we will no longer be amazed on seeing frenzied local peace-lovers, armed with crowbars and cobblestones, attacking a mobile launcher cruising around the region until it all goes bang. What terrifying stupidity—perceiving your own brothers and compatriots as enemies of peace, transforming them into social outcasts. It is so simply done today: Some populist deputy gathers a crowd, delivers an ardent speech about universal peace, ecology, and Russia's excessive militarization, and then leads an angry mob to a missile division's commander and declares: "Get out! Give the land used by the missile forces back to the peasants!" It would be nice, however, to approach this distant point in history without animal-like roars and without broken skulls. Even though some people might already wish to see kolkhoz cows sleeping on top of missile silos and large flocks of sheep grazing around the command centers.

I recall how some 10 years ago it was very fashionable to describe the SRF as "lords," "thunderers," and "missile knights." Nowadays I find it embarrassing to write about them when I see these lords—a gray-haired general or a young SRF lieutenant—sitting underground in some God-forsaken distant corner, hungrily spooning meat stew out of an imported can, when officers tell me that they have to moonlight at the local timber plant at night so that "the kids might enjoy a few apples at least once a month," when a colonel, exhausted by a long journey to nearby foreign parts, degradingly begs an independent Ostap Ivanovich to "send a couple of maintenance experts." They are certainly no lords—spending 15-17 days a month on alert duty, deprived of many basics of civilized life virtually throughout their service, being exposed to radioactive radiation for decades and receiving a paltry supplement of 38 rubles for this, suffering from radiculitis as much as labor camp inmates working in the mines, failing to even reach pensionable age in their hundreds. They are the fatherland's nuclear slaves, its most devoted patriotic elite deserving a monument cast in gold, but they do not want this. All they want is "to reliably protect the country, to somehow feed their families, to settle down somewhere and enjoy retirement before death."

Of course, not all of them are like this. Many, having turned their backs on the service, have fled to cooperative stalls and are selling trinkets, imported beer, and contraceptives. Yet in places the shortage of officers in the force is approaching the threatening 20-percent mark. This is an indirect but serious threat to nuclear

safety. Just a few weeks ago, the SRF was short of 3,000 officers. I was told that military commissariat staffers almost get down on their knees before draftees to entice them into the strategic forces. The guys laugh at them: "Do you think we are fools?" How is the problem to be solved? How are we to make up the manpower shortage and prevent our own nuclear shield collapsing on our own heads?

Having avoided the world nuclear abyss, we may at any moment fall into our own "nuclear pit." For several years now, many of our nuclear experts have been loudly sounding the alarm. Here is the warning issued by three of them—Ye. Avrorin, B. Litvinov, and B. Novikov:

"It is impossible to imagine that partial disarmament will solve the safety problem. On the contrary, when the procedure and schedule for disarmament are wrongly determined, the ensuing situation may necessitate the dismantling of nuclear warheads, mass transportation, the defusing of nuclear ammunition, and other processes on a much larger scale than envisaged in the technical normative documentation. In such circumstances it would be easy to succumb to temptation and speed up the work. This would almost certainly create preconditions for the emergence of accident situations."

Other specialists in this sphere are even more categorical: We have not yet reached the requisite standards for ensuring nuclear safety and destroying missiles. Unless they master modern technologies, the CIS' nuclear countries could bring themselves to the brink of self-destruction.

But assurances can already be heard that the "treaty" missiles can be destroyed not in seven but in four years. Adventurism pure and simple! We lack the necessary special storage facilities and equipment. We are not talking about putting potatoes in the cellar for winter storage, but we are reassured: "America will help us!" Yes, by promoting our nuclear dystrophy, and thus making itself stronger.

A nuclear missile is not a car which can either be parked somewhere for a long time if it is out of order or be taken to the scrap yard if it has outlived its usefulness. It demands the most thorough "medical observation" until the very last second of its existence. For a multitude of reasons, we often lack the manpower and facilities to provide it. We are already "detaching" the warheads—no longer in theory but in practice—but the crews continue to perform what seems to be proper alert duties. Work it out for yourselves: If this carries on, we will not need any "sensational" disarmament treaties with the Americans. We will drive ourselves to destroying our own missiles.

We will have to pay a high price unless we realize right now that we need an accurately designed reform of the SRF to be implemented at the level of a state program. Let us bear the following in mind: Despite the dizzying disarmament euphoria and love affair with those who believe that their handouts entitle them to dictate to us the pace and scale of "missile stripping," let us not make any decisions for which our descendants will curse us. For some reason, I firmly recall M. Thatcher's words that an opportunity to preserve peace remains for as long as nuclear arms exist on a reasonable scale.

During one of my last business trips to the SRF, one serviceman admitted: "I get the feeling that we lost the enemy following the fraternization with the States." But the Americans are smart guys! They have not lost us. And even though they have kind of promised to effect solid cutbacks, they are still vigilantly keeping us in their nuclear sights and are cobbling together new missile systems. Once again, the idea comes to mind: Let us not make fools of ourselves. There can be no doubt that it is necessary to cut back, but let us do it sensibly and without trying to abjectly please the rich uncle. For as long as he retains in his arsenal just one missile capable of reaching Russia, he will still remain our adversary. Whether real or theoretical—only time will tell.

I departed from the missile unit at noon on a sunny day in July. A blindingly white model of a huge and beautiful missile stood outside the headquarters among the tall pine trees. A cuckoo was calling somewhere deep inside the green forest. Superstitiously, I started counting: "One, two, three." The bird stopped. Was its prediction right or wrong?

Commander on Black Sea Fleet During Navy Day

LD2407193992 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 24 Jul 92

[Video report by correspondent G. Sedov; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Navy Day was celebrated today in Moscow. It was celebrated in an unusual manner.

The unusualness of the holiday lay in the fact that it was a family affair, a small circle. There were no representatives of higher authorities—although President Yeltsin sent a congratulatory telegram—and there were no officials, unlike the old days. Fleet Admiral Chernavin, commander in chief of the Navy, invited colleagues and veterans who served in various fleets during the war to his headquarters. Nostalgic music and old Navy songs were played for them. There were the normal conversations about life—past and present. And of course, they talked about things in the Navy today, especially about the Black Sea Fleet.

[Begin Chernavin recording] Even today the same unilateral provocative agressive actions continue—they say there is privatization, well here its piratization, and we are constantly protesting and saying that in the end our patience and the patience of the Black Sea Fleet sailors is not without limit. And this will not be a provocation, but an expression of will by the Black Sea Fleet sailors. [end recording]

Nevertheless a ceremonial session took place at which Commander in Chief Chernavin, at least briefly, stressed that the Russian Fleet has always served the might, authority, and nonor of its fatherland. And now it will not turn from this course.

'Most Difficult Moment' in Talks Still Ahead

LD2407201792 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1305 GMT 24 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow, 24 Jul—The most difficult moment in the Russian-Ukrainian talks on the Black Sea Fleet still lies ahead. That, according to a spokesman at the Black Sea Fleet press center, is how Admiral Igor Kasatonov, Commander of the Black Sea Fleet, has appraised the results of the meeting of Russian and Ukrainian parliamentary delegations which ended on Thursday, 23 July. In the admiral's opinion the moment will arise in the course of creating the mechanism for the physical division of the Fleet, when it will be necessary to divide up not only the ships but also the whole on-shore infrastructure as well as determine people's futures.

The Fleet considers that the main result of the working meeting of the Russian and Ukrainian delegations was the decision to set up a standing parliamentary commission on compliance with the moratorium on unilateral actions. It is due to operate on a permanent footing in the city of Sevastopol. It is proposed that beside the Russian Federation and Ukrainian parliamentarians it will also include representatives of the Crimean Supreme Soviet and the Sevastopol administration. One of the aims of the commission being set up is to prepare conditions for a meeting of the Russian and Ukrainian presidents on the Black Sea Fleet issue.

The spokesman of the Fleet press center also noted that the command of the Black Sea Fleet and Ukraine's navy undertook in future not to take any actions that might destabilize the situation in the Fleet.

Group To Supervise 'Moratorium'

LD2507141992 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 25 Jul 92

[Text] Results of the meeting that took place in Sevastopol between Vasyl Durdynets, first deputy chairman of the Supreme Council of Ukraine, and Yuriy Yarov, deputy chairman of the Supreme Council of the Russian Federation, have become known. Bahrov, chairman of the Supreme Council of the Crimea; Commander of the Black Sea Fleet Kasatonov, Kozhyn, commander of the Naval forces of Ukraine and Yermakov; and the presidential representative in Sevastopol were present at the meeting. The meeting took place behind closed doors.

At the meeting, as the journalists were informed, Kasatonov and Kozhyn declared that they promise not to resort to actions that would destabilize the situation in the Fleet. It was brought to the journalists' attention that the aim of the present meeting was not to hear mutual reproaches, but to work out a consensus on the division of the Fleet. At the meeting, it was decided to create an interstate commission of Ukraine and Russia, with the involvement of leaders of Crimea and Sevastopol, to supervise the adherence to the moratorium on the Black Sea Fleet. It was also decided to propose that the presidents of Ukraine and Russia meet again to decide the problems of the Fleet.

Rebel Escort Vessel's Commander Cited

PM2807104392 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 23 Jul 92

[Video report by S. Barabanov and V. Babenko from Odessa; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] [Barabanov over video of escort vessel SKR-815] The escort ship which carried out an unauthorized sailing from Sevastopol to Odessa is still tied up at the moorings of the Ukrainian border fleet. The Black Sea Fleet insists on the immediate return of the ship. Ukraine proposes that nothing be done until a political decision is adopted on the Fleet. The ship's crew was joined by a few staff officers from the brigade to which the SKR-815 belonged. They claim that several other ships were prepared to undertake similar action but were too slow.

At the present time the patrol ship is flying two flags—the state flag of Ukraine and the naval flag of the USSR. The crew is in a determined mood and, according to the ship's commander, Lieutenant Sergey Nastenko, until the Fleet is divided up they have no intention of taking down the Ukrainian flag or of abandoning the ship.

'Kaitseliit' Detachment Confronts Baltic Fleet

OW2507165592 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1534 GMT 25 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] One of the leaders of the Parnu "Kaitseliit" detachment Peeter Muurso told BF [BALTFAX] that on Thursday [23 July] his unit "prevented the Vana-Parnu lighthouse from being dismantled".

Muurso said that the Baltic Fleet's Hydrographic Board members intended to dismantle the lighthouse, but "Kaitseliit" armed guardsmen did not let them in.

On July 22 members of the Parnu "Kaitseliit" detachment and Kuperyanov battalion detained in the Parnu Gulf a Russian hydrographic ship, which, according to the Estonian side, was removing navigation buoys.

On the same day, according to the local "Kaitseliit" reports, lighthouses of the Parnu port were taken out of operation.

Property Issues Discussed at CIS Headquarters

LD2407181692 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1738 GMT 24 Jul 92

[By BELINFORM correspondent Larisa Lazar for TASS]

[Text] Minsk July 24 TASS—Heated debate has continued for two days in the Minsk headquarters of the CIS working group. Experts and staff of the coordinating bodies have been preparing papers for a regular meeting of the Commonwealth leaders. In particular, division of non-military ships and mutual recognition of property rights for social sphere objects, created at the expense of the CIS countries were under discussion.

Experts prepared a document, in which such objects are recognized as property of the countries that constructed them. The document also views their privatisation without the two sides' agreement as inadmissable.

It was resolved to prepare an agreement on all remaining, non-social objects on the territories of other countries, taking as the basis Uzbekistan's draft.

Within a month experts of other CIS countries will submit their proposals and considerations to the authors of the draft. A spokesman for the working group said the document on the division of non-military ships will be considered later.

It turned out that necessary information on all ships subject to division, including the Merchant Marine, fishing fleet and in-land water transport, had not been collected by the time of the experts' meeting.

ITAR-TASS Examines New Baltic Currencies

LD2707111592 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0845 GMT 27 Jul 92

[By BIZNES-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow, 27 Jul— Having one's own currency is by no means an essential ingredient of statehood, neither can it resolve a build-up of economic and political problems. Both Lithuania and Estonia have run up against this: their policy dictated a hard line in introducing national currencies and has paralyzed their cash circulations and economies. The third Baltic country, Latvia, took that into account and opted for a different method. A variety of Latvian rublis banknotes - denominations of 1, 5, 20, 50, 200 and 500—came into circulation on July 20. The republican leadership sees this as the first step toward quitting the ruble zone and bringing in a national currency, the lat. The Latvian reform is different from that in Estonia. Firstly, Tallinn decided to tie the kroona to the deutschmark. Second, Estonia had a prior agreement with Russia on exit from the ruble zone, in which it undertook to hand back all Russian rubles in circulation. And, third, the Bank of Estonia received foreign loans to shore up its national currency.

However, the ban on payments in rubles in Estonia has caused them to dry up altogether and forced local suppliers to keep resorting to a specific form of barter—they exchange their goods for rubles as if the latter were a commodity. The Latvian leadership has taken this on board and allowed parallel circulation of the rublis and ruble, but with the proviso that the rublis is the sole legal means of payment. Purchasers and debtors can settle up in Russian rubles on condition that the supplier or creditor is willing to accept them.

The rublis-ruble exchange rate is 1:1. Business and private accounts in Latvian banks have not been converted, but in future all withdrawals from them will be in Latvian rublis only. The introduction of a national currency in any former Soviet republic is bound to cause the payment system to seize up because most businesses are geared to the Russian market. On top of that, businesses are not only the end suppliers or consumers of products but also specialize in particular components or parts, etc., and such specialization becomes impossible if a partner's currency is unconvertible.

As happened in Ukraine when coupons were introduced, people in Latvia prefer the Russian ruble, because for all its shortcomings it has greater purchasing power than some new currency just introduced by an ex-Soviet republic. The ruble is, after all, used for making payments throughout the former Soviet Union. In addition,

the Russian government is moving to stabilize the ruble—which is more than can be said for the other CIS governments.

Agricultural Developments for 20-26 Jul

LD2807034892

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of fileworthy reports not previously reported on agricultural developments monitored from CIS sources from 20-25 July. Items are listed in chronological order by republic. Sourcelines and processing indicators follow each item.

RUSSIA

1. This year's harvest in Voronezh Oblast will not be a very good one because of the cold, dry spring. Some 12,000 combine harvesters are now working in the fields, and the harvest is expected to yield about 17 to 18 quintals per hectare. Fuel shortages are hampering the work; the oblast needs 60,000 tonnes of fuel per month, but only 37,000 tonnes have actually been delivered.

The price of a tonne of breadgrain is an issue that is worrying many people. In neighboring Rostov and Volgograd Oblasts, a tonne is expected to cost 30,000 rubles [R], whereas the Voronezh Oblast administration expects the cost to be around R10,000 to R15,000. That means that a loaf of bread will cost R25, but the final price will be determined when the harvest season is over. (Summary—Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0330 GMT 20 Jul 92)

2. As Moscow Oblast Agriculture Minister Korolev has reported, an extremely serious situation has arisen with the procurement of feed crops. (Yegorevskiy), Zarayskiy, and Orekho-Zuyevskiy Rayons are the areas worse affected by the drought; they are yielding three times less hay than last year. This could lead to a reduced cattle population in the future.

Korolev also noted that, in addition to the weather conditions, the procurement of feed crops has been influenced by the fact that hardly any townspeople are helping with the hay-making this year. Morever, there has been an increase in thefts of feed crops from state storage. Nevertheless, Korolev assessed the feed crop situation as serious but not critical. He noted that the second hay harvest may substantially improve the situation if Moscow Oblast farms adopt a responsible attitude. (Text—Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0900 GMT 20 Jul 92)

3. In the Maritime Kray, the rice harvest situation is extremely bad due to the fuel shortages that have grown out of the rupture of former economic ties. The situation has been made worse by the fact that the Economics Ministry has offered to purchase rice at R13,000 per tonne, when the prime price would be R28,000 per tonne. This is bringing farms to the brink of bankruptcy, and it could leave the population of Maritime Kray without rice. (Summary—Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0900 GMT 20 Jul 92)

4. An analysis of the harvesting in the fields of Russia has confirmed preliminary forecasts on this year's expected grain harvest. Vladimir Shcherbak, first deputy minister of agriculture, told the (AGROPRESS) agency that judging by the situation in the middle of July, approximately 96 million tonnes can be expected. The harvest in Kuban, Don, and Stavropol Kray, where the harvesting is close to its peak, looks even more considerable.

The situation in other regions of Russia, however, is not the same. Whereas rain has considerably worsened the outlook in the south, in the middle belt and in the east the picture is often the opposite. Whatever the climatic situation, problems common to all the regions are already emerging. Problems in providing material and machinery are connected primarily with fuel supplies. In Khaborovsk Kray, the transport of grain may be threatened because of difficulties in forming military motorized battalions. The reason for this is the lack of economic coordination there. The main economic issue in the 1992 harvest, however, has to do with establishing procurement prices for new harvest grain. (Text—Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1100 GMT 20 Jul 92)

5. RIA reports that an original kind of record has been set in this year's grain price race: Voronezh Oblast plans to sell grain to the state for R30,000 per tonne. This was decided by agricultural workers on the eve of the harvest at an emergency gathering in Boguchar. Those attending the gathering cited the fact that a tonne of grain from abroad costs the state $300, or approximately R37,000. (Text—Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1000 GMT 21 Jul 92)

6. By BUSINESS-TASS writer Vladimir Kulikovskikh:

Moscow July 23 TASS—Russia may harvest 93-96 million tonnes of grain this year, according to experts' estimates.

One third of the grain will be sold to the state and the remaining 60 million tonnes will be traded at grain exchanges. This can make wholesale prices drop lower than the state one, which is 10 thousand roubles per tonne.

However, inflation may interfere. To save money from devaluation it may be "invested" in grain, and prices for the produce will jump up. Still they would hardly exceed the state-envisaged top limit of 20,000 roubles per tonne of best-quality grain, as the sum equals world prices for the produce. At the 130:1 rouble-dollar exchange rate the latest world prices for wheat amount to 16,000-17,000 roubles, while in Russia they will vary from 10,000 to 20,000 thousand roubles. (Text—Moscow ITAR- TASS in English 1642 GMT 23 Jul 92)

7. In Dagestan, the Agriculture Ministry has finished totaling the cost of the recent snowstorms. N. Magomayev, the republic's deputy minister for livestock, notes: "The snowstorms are over gone and the first results have been assessed. We now know that we lost 500 head of cattle, 20,000 sheep, 5,500 hectares of grain crops, 300 hectares of potatoes and, unfortunately, two people, in snowdrifts. The damage has been initially estimated at R1 billion. Of course, the republic does not have that kind of money." (Summary—Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 24 Jul 92—from the "Vesti" newscast)

8. Some 20,000 students from Yekaterinburg, Perm, and St. Petersburg are expected to help with the harvest in Astrakhan Oblast. The students have already started to arrive; last week they began work at the oblast's vegetable- growing collective farms. Wages promise to be good; schoolchildren who did 24 days of weeding earned almost R3,000 each.

Most students have set off to work in Privolzhskiy, Kamyzyakskiy, and Kharabalinskiy Rayons in Astrakhan Oblast, where the largest farms are situated. Up to 80 percent of the harvest in the oblast is gathered by people from outside the oblast. The collective and state farms invite students to work for pay which will be given after the produce has been marketed. Most students will work in the oblast until the end of August; the last ones will leave in the last 10 days of September, when the picking of Astrakhan water melons will end. (Summary—Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1000 GMT 25 Jul 92)

9. An onset of locusts in the Transbaykal area is threatening to destroy this year's already small harvest, ITAR-TASS reports. Large numbers of the insects have been noted in 13 administrative rayons of Chita Oblast, covering 20,000 hectares. Weather conditions, including a two-month heat wave and little rain, have aided the spread of the pest. Local executive bodies are now planning to send an aircraft to Rostov Oblast to pick up chemical pesticides effective in combating locusts for the Transbaykal area. (Text—Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1100 GMT 26 Jul 92)

UKRAINE

1. Ukrainian Prime Minister Vitold Fokin state at a news conference in Lugansk that the first signs of an improvement in the Republic's economic situation will appear in the fall with a successful harvest, thanks to which Ukraine will be able to forego importing grain. (Text—Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0600 GMT 20 Jul 92)

2. The harvest has begun in Kiev Oblast. Following peas, the harvesting of barley and winter wheat has begun. The fields are yielding approximately 30-35 quintals per hectare, the maximum. Cornfields in Kiev Oblast have been reduced by approximately 40,000 hectares, approximately 6 percent of the area. Tillage has been given over to town dwellers for market gardening. (Summary—Kiev Ukrayinske Telebachennya Television Network in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 23 Jul 92)

3. Harvesting is under way in the Crimea under difficult conditions. In recent days rain has reduced the rate of work in the fields. Four-fifths of the area for early grains has been harvested so farm with an average yield of almost 35 quintals per hectare. (Summary—Kiev Ukrayinske Telebachennya Television Network in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 23 Jul 92)

4. Harvesting in Lugansk Oblast is taking place in complex weather conditions. In spite of heavy showers and storm winds, grain from an area of 24,000 hectares has been harvested and threshed. This accounts for 1/20th of the entire work. The first tonnes of high-quality grain have been delivered to grain reception centers in Krasnodon, Lutugino, and Novoaydar. (Text—Kiev Ukrayinske Telebachennya Television Network in Ukrainian 1600 GMT 24 Jul 92)

5. Kharkov Oblast is expected to produce 1.13 million tonnes of grain under the state order. V.S. Voznyy, the Ukrainian president's representative in Kharkov Oblast, says farms are selling bread at R9.60 per kg. (Summary—Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1100 GMT 25 Jul 92)

WESTERN REGION (Byelarus, Moldova): No fileworthy items monitored.

CENTRAL ASIA

KAZAKHSTAN

1. Two-thirds are good, while the remainder is satisfactory. This was the Ministry of Agriculture's assessment of the tracts of wheat in the south of the Republic, where the harvest is being wound up, and in the north, where the early cereals [kolosovykh] are ripening. What about crops like rice, sugar beets, and sunflowers, which have seen a considerable increase in areas sown? It seems that a good assessment predominates here as well. (Text—Alma-Ata Kazakh Radio Network in Russian 0600 GMT 21 Jul 92)

2. By KAZTAG correspondent Tatyana Zhurbenko for TASS:

Alma-Ata July 21 TASS—Kazakhstan plans to harvest a record grain crop this year if the weather and mismanagement do not interfere. "The grain harvest, in general, is expected to be at the 1990 level, which was a record one", Kazakhstan's Prime Minister Sergey Tereschenko told the "KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA" newspaper on Tuesday. He did not disclose the planned figures.

But the grain is to be again harvested by the old totalitarian method of command and control. This is a forced and temporary measure, Tereschenko explained, adding much is to be done in saving the harvested crops.

An extraordinary commission will deal with providing means of transport, fuel and everything necessary for field work. Bonuses are envisaged for workers engaged in harvesting. A combine operator may get additional 100 thousand roubles for good work, while a truck driver will receive his bonus in kind—a tonne of grain.

Kazakhstan has not yet agreed to accept assistance offered by other Commonwealth states as they are charging too much for help. Byelarus, Kyrgyzstan, Russia and Ukraine are requesting 100 tonnes of grain for each combine operator and 300 tonnes for each vehicle.

A tonne of third-class wheat will be bought by the state for 8.5 thousand roubles, high-quality wheat—for 10 thousand roubles.

Tereschenko said he is against increasing state-controlled prices on bread. If all of the crops are harvested, processed and sold the price of bread should decrease, he added. (Text—Moscow TASS in English 1059 GMT 21 Jul 92)

Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan: No fileworthy items monitored.

CAUCASUS (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia): No fileworthy items monitored.

'Sharp Increase' in Reported AIDS Cases

LD2807044192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0350 GMT 28 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyubov Dunayeva]

[Text] Moscow, 28 July (ITAR-TASS)—A sharp increase in the incidence of AIDS in Russia and the CIS countries has been noted. Through the first six months of this year, 100 cases have been registered. This matches the total number reported for all of last year. Of the 100 reported cases, 80 have already died. By the end of this year an increase in both infection and deaths is expected, Vadim Pokrovskiy, head of the Russian republican Center for Combating AIDS, said in an interview with ITAR-TASS.

Roundup of Radio 'DX Club' News

LD2607180992 Moscow Golos Rossii World Service in Russian 1125 GMT 26 Jul 92

[From the "DX Club News"]

[Excerpts] Ukraine: We have received several letters from our Ukrainian colleagues. They concertedly refute the information reported by the Kharkov amateur radio operator Viktor Nechayev. Nechayev complained that the independent radio station Radius-66 was someone's invention, and claimed that it does not exist. As for the telephone number of the radio station 33-90-77, he claimed that this was not connected to anything. Our Ukraine friends, and by the way, your humble servant, called this number. The answer at the other end said that the editor's office of radio station Radius- 66 does really exist there. By the way the mentioned telephone number is in the building of the Kharkov Oblast Television and Radio Broadcasting Committee.

Mayak Radio, which the reserve airborne servicemen Viktor Ivanovich Nechayev completely failed to find on the wavelengths, continues to be heard loud and clear in Kharkov on 810 kHz.

As for the second program of the Ukraine Radio, it has been on the air since May this year under the name Promin [beam].

In brief, the existing information makes one doubt that our esteemed Viktor Nechayev, who lives in Kharkov, is indeed a qualified amateur radio operator as he claims to be. [passage omitted, thanking the listeners for their letters]

Moldova, Dniester Region. Immediately after the first broadcast of the previous edition of the DX Club, our editor's office received a telephone call from the Dniester Region, and the caller confirmed DX Club's information that the Moldovan authorities are indeed deliberately jamming the transmissions of Radio Pridnestrovye, which broadcasts on 999 and 1494 kHz. The jamming devices which have been brought into operation again are roaring on both these frequencies. [passage omitted]

Russia-Israel. We have received details about Radio Alef. Its programs in Russian are being retransmitted via the transmitters of Moscow Radio International on 4055, 12,075, and 17,890 as well as on medium wave and on frequencies in the 41 and 49 meter bands which have not been identified so far. However, one of these frequencies is known; this is approximately 7300 kHz. This requires further confirmation.

In one of the previous editions of the DX Club mentioning the existence of this station, another program was also reported. It is broadcast in one of the Oriental languages on the same frequencies as Radio Alef. The program "Rukhi Miraf," which means Spiritual Heritage, begins at 1500. This program is in Tartar language and is broadcast on Fridays. Its duration is 45 minutes. The telephone number of the editor's office of this program in Moscow is 095-281-49-04. I repeat 095-281-49-04. This was reported by Dmitriy Mezin from Kazan, Tatarstan. Thank you, Dmitriy. [passage omitted]

Russia, Samara Oblast. Aleksandr Gololikhin from Tolyatti has sent in a letter and cuttings from local newpapers. One of them reports that a commercial radio station called Radio-7 broadcasts in Samara. It should broadcast in the languages of the peoples who live in Samara Oblast: Russian, Jewish, Tartar, Mordovan, Chuvash, and German. Only the wavelengths are given: 25 and 49 meters. Let us thank Aleksandr for his report and let's ask the listeners of the DX Club to inform us about the exact frequencies of this new station. I would

also like to draw your attention to the fact that Radio-7 in Samara and Radio-7 in Moscow are completely different stations.

The second newspaper cutting says that the Zhiguli radio and television station has started relaying Mayak from Moscow on 69.41 mHz.

ITAR-TASS Press Review for 25 Jul

LD2507060392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0437 GMT 25 Jul 92

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow July 25 TASS—PRAVDA carries an article by Gennadiy Seleznev, which deals with President Yeltsin's efforts aimed at achieving civil accord in the country. The article stresses that "the president is very much concerned over serious differences in society", but points out that this concern is not shared by his closest advisers. In the opinion of Seleznev, they are actually hampering Yeltsin's activities, aimed at the consolidation of Russian society.

Newspapers devote much attention today to Russian-Japanese relations and the so-called "territorial problem", which is the main stumbling block on the way to a complete normalisation of relations and further development of cooperation. PRAVDA publishes a letter sent by the Japanese Embassy in Moscow, which is entitled "Japan's View". It sets forth the well-known stand of the Japanese side with regard to the four Kuril Islands which, in the opinion of Japanese diplomats, should be returned to Japan. The letter points out that "the conclusion of a peace treaty through resolving the territorial problem will establish long-term friendly relations between Russia and Japan, based on mutual confidence. This will help make use of numerous potentialities both in the economic and diplomatic spheres."

According to NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA, the problem of the Kuril Islands may "blow up the whole of Russia's foreign policy". The newspaper carries under this headline fragments of a report of People's Deputy Oleg Rumyantsev, prepared for the parliamentary hearings which are scheduled for July 28. The fragments deal with Russian-Japanese relations, the problem of Russia's territorial integrity and possible ways of settling the territorial dispute. They also contain brief conclusions and recommendations for the forthcoming official visit to Japan on the summit level.

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA carries as well an article by the journalist Vladimir Abarinov on this subject. Touching upon the territorial dispute, he writes that "the attempts to exert pressure on Russia are counterproductive." He writes in detail about the proposal of Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev to resolve the problem, following the example of the "Manila precedent", i.e. the settlement of a territorial dispute between China, Vietnam, the Philippines and some other countries over the Spratly Islands in the Pacific.

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA carries excerpts from a booklet by Ivan Ilyin, a Russian thinker, who foresaw many decades ago the grave consequences of the disintegration of Russia for the whole world.

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA publishes an interview with Mustafa Dzhemilev, chairman of the Crimean Tatar Majlis (parliament). In his opinion, Ukraine should "decide what is its attitude to Crimean Tatars." He favours "the restoration of the national-territorial statehood of Crimean Tatars on the territory of the whole of the Crimea within the framework of the Ukrainian state."

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA writes in detail about the circumstances of the voyage of a patrol boat from the Crimean base of the Black Sea Fleet to Odessa without an order of the Fleet command. The patrol boat is now in Odessa. The newspaper recalls that the patrol boat commander decided on his own to turn it over to the Ukrainian Navy and writes that "the Military Council of the Black Sea Fleet... demanded that the patrol boat be returned to its port of deployment and the incident be settled in accordance with the law". According to the newspaper, not all members of the crew supported the decision of their commander.

The press writes about the opening of the 25th Summer Olympics in Barcelona today, in which 10,517 athletes from 172 teams, coming from all continents, will take part. They will vie for 257 sets of medals in 25 sports. The newspapers point out that "the Barcelona Olympics will see the end of the Olympic history of the USSR." In the future the athletes, who previously formed a single team under the Soviet flag, will participate in the Olympics as members of their national teams.

For 28 Jul

LD2807061192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0426 GMT 28 Jul 92

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] [no dateline as received] Moscow newspapers highlight reports about the launching of the "Soyuz-TM-15" spacecraft with a Russian-French joint space crew on board which took place on July 27. The TRUD newspaper writes that the event does not only signify a new stage in the development of commercial partnership between the two countries in space exploration, but also inspires hope that our space research, which was nearly on the verge of bankruptcy, has good prospects."

There are plans to carry out four more Russian-French joint space flights on a commercial basis. The project will cost the French side some 70-100 million dollars, the newspaper writes.

Interesting projects are being developed with other countries, in particular, with Germany and the United States. Nevertheless, "the earned currency will not be enough to cover all expenses, including the creation of a new

station "Mir-2", the newspaper pointed out. Unless funds are allocated by the state, the "Mir-2" station will not be launched in 1995-1996, and many promising joint projects will collapse, the newspaper said.

The newspapers unanimously point out to the danger of decisions adopted by the Abkhaz parliament to restore the 1925 constitution, which practically implies the secession of Abkhazia from Georgia.

The newspapers note that the move brought about another upsurge of tension in Georgia and will inevitably lead to the "war of laws" between Tbilisi and Sukhumi. The NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA writes that "the situation in Abkhazia might become worse than in South Ossetia." The TRUD newspaper points out that the decision was adopted at a time when the peace-keeping forces of Russia, Georgia and North Ossetia managed to achieve a ceasefire in South Ossetia. "It means that someone is interested in provoking permanent disturbances in Georgia, " the newspaper concludes.

The situation in South Ossetia is gradually coming back to normal, the NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA writes. According to the mewspaper, some 4,000-6,000 refugees have returned to Tskhinvali. Preliminary estimates show that the war has caused South Ossetia 43 billion roubles in damages, the newspaper writes.

Over the last year Russian exports fell by 30 per cent, Petr Aven, Russian minister for foreign economic relations, said in an interview with the KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA newspaper. This is connected with a 15 per cent cut in imports, he said.

Commenting on the prospects for the import-export policy for the next few years, he pointed out that the emphasis will again be laid on oil trade, which together with gas exports account for 64 per cent in the structure of Russian exports.

Almost all newspapers comment on the hearings of the CPSU case which are continuing for the fourth week by the Russian constitutional court.

The KRASNAYA ZVEZDA newspaper points out that the first results of the confrontation in the courtroom make it possible to arrive at a conclusion that the team represented by Shakhray-Burbulis defending President Yeltsin's decrees will not have an easy victory. The NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA, on its part, is convinced that the witnesses who gave their testimony increased the chances of the president's team to win the case.

Commenting on the problem of the Kuril Islands on the eve of the discussion of the problem by the Russian parliament due on Tuesday [28 July], the KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA writes that "it is turning into a stumbling block in Russian-Japanese relations."

The NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA publishes the second part of a report devoted to the problem made by MP [member of parliament] Oleg Rumyantsev. (The first part was published by the newspaper in its Saturday issue).

The newspaper also reports that the chairman of the parliamentary committee for foreign affairs Ion Andronov demanded that the hearings on the problem be open.

The KOMSOLMOLSKAYA PRAVDA newspaper in an article devoted to the Russian military presence in the South Kuril Islands points out that, taking into account the amount of ammunition and the number of Russian servicemen stationed in the area, they could neither rebuff an armed attack by Japanese troops, nor prevent unarmed poachers from illegel fishing in the area.

Over 40 Japanese vessels daily violate the Russian state border in the area of the South Kuril Islands, the newspaper writes.

However, Major-General Boruchenko, commander of the Pacific border troops, whose attitude to the problem is published by the newspaper, thinks that the situation on the border is normal, the contacts between Russian border troops and Japanese coastal guards are fruitful and international illegal fishing is unavoidable.

Russian envoy for affairs of Russian troops stationed in Poland, Colonel-General Leonid Kovalyev, said in an interview with the KRASNAYA ZVEZDA newspaper that the withdrawal of Russian troops is proceeding according to a schedule. The schedule of the redislocation of troops is being observed. We have withdrawn more than 45,000 servicemen, 453 tanks, 953 armoured carriers, as well as all heavy artillery and rocket installations. Practically all airforce was withdrawn from Poland, he said.

Kovalev denied charges published by the Polish press that the Russian Army has allegedly destroyed and looted military facilities which were passed over to the Polish side.

International Affairs

U.S. Space-Based Intelligence Hardware Viewed

PM2807090992 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Jul 92 p 3

[Colonel Yu. Makarov "Military-Technical Review": "U.S. Intelligence Services' 'Ear' in Space"]

[Text] U.S. space intelligence systems get their fair share of attention in foreign publications. Books, reviews, and other materials are devoted to these 20th century creations. Moreover, space-based imaging intelligence and radio and electronic intelligence attract the greatest interest.

If the U.S. imaging intelligence satellites equipped with electro-optical and radar apparatus for observing installations on the earth's surface are figuratively called the U.S. intelligence services' all-seeing "eye" in space, then the electronic intelligence and surveillance satellites (radio and electronic intelligence satellites) should by rights be called these services' all-hearing "ear" in space.

The listening capabilities of this "ear" enable it to track a number of sources of radio emissions. Various information communications systems that use radio-relay, space, and troposphere radio communications networks, radar facilities for guidance systems, radio navigation facilities for moving objects, flight backup complexes for aerial and space devices, and radiotelemetric and other radio systems which are an integral component of many modern technical devices and military and industrial installations are all vigilantly monitored by radio and electronic intelligence satellites. They locate radio signals, "cleanse" them of interference, get a bearing on sources of electromagnetic radiation, determine parameters, compose the necessary intelligence databases, and transmit them to ground computer centers for further processing.

The powerful computers in these centers turn the intelligence raw material recovered via space into an intelligence product—the tactical and technical characteristics of radio facilities, the modes of functioning and structural peculiarities of the systems and complexes to which they belong, their organizational affiliation, and also, of course, the contents of the various commands and reports that are being transmitted via radio control and communications channels.

In the 30 years since they first appeared, radio and electronic intelligence satellites have mastered all near-earth orbits—from low to geostationary. They form more than 80 percent of U.S. modern intelligence fleet in space.

Up to now the United States has operated four types of radio and electronic intelligence systems in space. Modernized first-generation Ferret electronic intelligence satellites, whose intelligence technology was developed back in the 1960's, continue to operate in low circular orbits 700 km up. They only monitor the work of fairly strong radio emission sources, mainly various systems with a military purpose.

SSU [expansion unknown] electronic intelligence satellites, which began to be used in the early 1970's and have undergone several modifications since, are continuing to track the work of the radio facilities of naval installations from 1,000 km up. The special ballistic characteristics of these satellites make it possible to determine the coordinates of the sources of radio signals with considerable precision.

Both these types of low-orbit satellites are fairly simple in terms of their apparatus, and they are lightweight, compact, and relatively inexpensive. Their antenna systems have wide directional patterns so they can scan a 2,000-3,000-km zone on the earth's surface.

The end of the 1970's marked the appearance in the United States of a new generation of radio and electronic intelligence satellites. During these years the United States deployed Rhyolite electronic surveillance satellites in geostationary 36,000-km orbits and Jumpseat radio and electronic intelligence satellites in extended elliptical orbits (about 40,000 km up in the northern hemisphere). The former type was designed primarily to intercept signals from radio relay, troposphere, satellite, and certain ultra shortwave radio stations located south of the 60th parallel; the latter targeted its antennae on northern regions while it "hung" over them them for six to eight hours.

Taking the operational experience of all the previous systems into consideration, the new generation of Magnum radio and electronic intelligence satellites was developed and deployed in the mid-1980's. It is designed to gather multifunctional electronic intelligence from quasistationary (synchronous elliptical) orbits with an apogee of about 41,000 km and a perigee of about 35,000 km. This orbit makes it possible to "peep into" more northerly regions and get a fix on radio facilities that are on the air for a long time by using different viewing angles, thereby eventually enabling their coordinates to be determined with greater precision. To ensure interception of low-power and short-duration radio signals, the satellite has been equipped with a receiving device whose sensitivity is close to the theoretical limit and has high-speed frequency retuning and an extended dynamic range. A dual-antenna system consisting of parabolic antennae with a diameter of about 23 meters enables intelligence to be gathered from two regions simultaneously.

The Magnum satellites are deployed in quasistationary orbits in such a way as to make possible a simultaneous survey of practically the entire surface of the earth. In the opinion of U.S. specialists, they have pioneered a new era in radio and electronic intelligence in space. The technical solutions that form the basis of the Magnum satellites reflect the principal directions of future development. These include: guaranteed interception of transitory emissions and signals with complex types of modulation; greater precision in determining the coordinates of low-strength emission sources; an increase in the number of radio facilities from which intelligence can be gathered simultaneously; and greater reliability of radio

and electronic intelligence when communications intelligence denial and deception facilities etc. are in use.

The increasing speed with which space is being conquered by radio and electronic intelligence demonstrates that where radioelectronic systems are used en masse in various spheres of human activity, satellites of a particular class tend to be further improved and are a highly effective means of obtaining varied intelligence information.

CIA Raising USSR Sub Raises Questions

PM2807113592 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 24 Jul 92 p 3

["KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA Investigation" by K. Belyaninov: "The Secret of Project 'Jennifer'"]

[Text] For some reason the U.S. Navy base at Pearl Harbor did not have a copy of the Soviet national anthem, so a score had to be brought from Washington. The special courier also brought a translation of the USSR Armed Forces Regulations and 30 red hammer and sickle flags, equal to the number of dead seamen.

They were buried in the way these things are stipulated in all the world's navies, which could be why the officer in charge of the ceremony constantly checked against the other state's army regulations. Wrapped in red flags, the bodies were lowered into the sea in the fall of 1974 in the region of the Hawaiian Islands in the Pacific.

From KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA's files:

The Golf-class diesel submarine was developed at the Severodvinsk and Komsomolsk-na-Amure design bureaus in 1958. It has a crew of 80-85 men, length 100 meters, laden weight 2,800 tonnes, speed 14-17 knots, armament: three ballistic missiles and six torpedoes with nuclear warheads. In 1958-1962 23 submarines of this class were built in the USSR.

No more than 10 people knew about the operation known as "Jennifer." The project was just too improbable: Raising from a depth of half a kilometer a Soviet submarine which suffered an accident in the area of the Hawaiian Islands in April 1968. People are still arguing about the causes to this day, although most experts consider that the submarine sank as a result of an engine explosion—a highly typical "event" for submarines of this type.

Soviet ships could not detect anything when they went to the scene of the accident two weeks later. A report to that effect went off to Moscow, and from that moment the 85 submarine crew members joined the "lost without a trace" list.

A different view of the matter was taken in Washington. Three years after the accident Richard Helms, then director of the CIA, spelled out a plan for raising the submarine in a special report to President Nixon. If the operation was successful the CIA would obtain unique material: the most detailed technical parameters of a Soviet submarine, including data on weaponry and communications and navigational systems.

The preparations took almost three years. In June 1974 a specially built ship, the Glomar Explorer, left the naval port at Long Beach, California. One-third of the ship's hold was taken up by an installation known as a "moon tank" [lunnyy basseyn]—a hermetically sealed sphere in which it was proposed to place the submarine if the operation was a success. Half the Glomar's crew were CIA staffers.

The technical details of the raising of the submarine are unknown to this day. From the fragmentary evidence of participants in the operation it is possible to glean that only the front part of the submarine was successfully raised. It has not been possible to ascertain whether it broke up during lifting or earlier, when the engines exploded.

Experts were able to get inside the submarine only two days after it had been raised. The submarine's internal bulkheads had "concertinaed" as a result of the horrendous pressure under the water. In many of the crew's quarters the distance from floor to ceiling was no more than half a meter.

According to evidence from participants, two weeks after the operation began the Glomar's hold had become a kind of amalgam of archive and morgue. The bodies which had been found were identified most carefully, photographed, and, after treatment with a special compound, packed in plastic bags for dispatch to the United States. In several compartments they discovered documents, and in one of the officers' cabins they discovered encryption tables and other equipment, admittedly badly damaged by sea water.

The Glomar's crew, incidentally, was not allowed anywhere near this work. Only medics and special CIA agents were authorized admission to the "moon tank," whereas seaman were allowed in only in order to clean away the horrible mixture of fuel oil, sand, and sea water which filled the submarine. According to one of them, bits of bodies and fragments of clothing and equipment had been scattered around all the compartments as a result of the explosion. But this, incidentally, did not stop the seaman from starting to hunt for trophies: watches, rings, bracelets...

"I witnessed several clashes between sailors and CIA agents," one of the members of the ship command recalled later. "The agents demand that all personal effects should be left with the bodies of the dead, to which the sailors said that they had no intention of dumping gold in the sea. Thereafter a blind eye was turned to this."

Several times a Soviet patrol boat which was in the same area approached very close to the Glomar and attempted to find out what work was being done on board. Despite the fact that the raised part of the submarine was safely hidden in the hold, it was decided to return to base. On

the evening of 13 August 1974 the Glomar dropped anchor 10 miles off the Hawaiian island of Maui.

The furor broke as a complete surprise to the then administration. Despite the CIA's efforts, fragmentary information about operation "Jennifer" had leaked into the press, and six months later Senator Frank Church, head of the Senate committee for secret service affairs, attempted to find out the reason for spending $35 million allocated by special decision of the president without the authorization of either the Senate or the Congress. He did not receive an answer. Instead a surprise decision was made to organize a lavish burial for the Soviet seamen. A CIA staffer said that "discussion of this question went on for a long time, and it was decided to conduct the burials because of the public's extremely negative attitude. It could have intensified if certain details of the operation had become known. Therefore the main purpose of this unusual ceremony was merely to display respect for the dead seamen."

All information about operation "Jennifer," which took place under the direct control of President Ford, the successor to Nixon, who had resigned amid scandal, was designated highly classified. And for some reason the American newspapers, having published items about it by the dozen, forgot about the scandal which had barely broken.

This story was recalled quite recently, after the Russian president's visit to America. While promising to start an active search for American prisoners of war who went missing on USSR territory, Boris Yeltsin did not say a word about the seamen aboard the sunken submarine. Even despite several stories that several seamen had been saved following the accident. Meanwhile, in the words of several admirals, the Russian Navy staff know nothing about this. And for 85 of our submariners' families they continue to be regarded as "missing without a trace."

But while our government maintains its usual silence, Americans are themselves trying to find out something about the crew's fate. Joshua Handler, coordinator of the international ecological organization Greenpeace, has asked the CIA several times on the basis of the Freedom of Information Act. The answer he received was quite specific: "The Central Intelligence Agency has never confirmed or denied the existence of the information you request. Such information ... is secret for reasons of national security in accordance with Order 12356."

Japanese Embassy Letter Backs Kuril Claim

PM2707123792 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Jul 92 p 3

["Letter to PRAVDA" from Japanese Embassy in Russia: "From Japan's Vantage Points"—first three paragraphs are introduction]

[Text] "Will Japan be given the disputed islands or not?"—this question appears with increasing frequency in PRAVDA's mailbag from Russia and other Commonwealth states as President B. Yeltsin's visit to the land of the rising sun scheduled for mid-September draws near.

PRAVDA's stance on territorial demarcation with Japan is clear from the articles it has published on this problem. These include the letter from Doctor of Juridical Sciences V. Kovalev entitled "Russia Will Not Be Auctioned Off" (19 May 1991). The letter was noted by the Japanese Embassy in Russia, which has asked us to familiarize our readers with its viewpoint too.

Our publication of the Japanese letter does not mean that the editorial office shares their ideas and arguments. PRAVDA favors developing good-neighborly, mutually beneficial, and stable relations with Japan on a long-term basis, but not at the expense of meeting its territorial claims.

We read with great interest V. Kovalev's article in your newspaper. We would venture to voice our viewpoint for the sake of fairness.

First of all let us say a word about the history of the islands before World War II. The oldest surviving Japanese map on which these four islands appear marked as Japanese territory is dated 1644. Subsequently the Russians moved south from Kamchatka along the Kuril Islands, but Japan had asserted its effective ownership of Iturup and Kunashir before the beginning [do nachala] of the 19th century, and in 1855 the Japanese-Russian treaty on friendship and trade quite peacefully defined the four northern islands as Japanese territory in law also. Later, right up until the time when these islands were bloodlessly occupied by Soviet troops following the end of World War II and unilaterally incorporated in the USSR by Stalin in 1946, neither the Russian empire nor the USSR Government ever claimed ownership of the four islands from Japan.

V. Kovalev cites the Yalta agreement of 1945, but the Yalta agreement was concluded in deep secrecy by the leaders of the United States, Britain, and the USSR, and Japan at the time did not even suspect its existence. Consequently, it never agreed to it and is not bound by it in any way. What is more, the Yalta agreement itself both textually and in the opinion of the United States, one of the parties to it, is nothing more than a document that sets out the aims of the three leaders of the allied powers and does not advance any definitive solutions or have any legal force as regards the transfer of territories. A postwar territorial settlement is implemented by a peace treaty and it is inadmissible in international law for another country to arbitrarily dispose of any state's territory without its consent.

As for the 1951 San Francisco Peace Treaty, the Soviet Union did not sign it and this treaty clearly envisages that it does not grant a nonsignatory country any rights. Under the above treaty Japan renounced its right to South Sakhalin and the Kuril Islands, but the Japanese Government interprets this clause as meaning that the four northern islands, which were always Japanese territory, are not included in the Kuril chain.

V. Kovalev then refers to the Japanese-Soviet Joint Declaration of 1956. This declaration envisaged that talks on concluding a peace treaty be continued after diplomatic relations were resumed between Japan and the Soviet Union. It went on to say that of the four northern islands Shikotan and Habomai would be handed over to Japan once a peace treaty had been concluded. That same year, before the declaration was signed, Matsumoto and Gromyko exchanged letters agreeing for the territorial question—namely, the question of ownership of Kunashir and Iturup—to be made the subject of the talks on concluding a peace treaty.

Despite the fact that the joint declaration was ratified by both countries' parliaments and was an international treaty lodged with the United Nations, the USSR Government, using a review of the Japanese-U.S. Security Treaty in 1960 as a pretext, unilaterally put forward a new condition for handing over Shikotan and Habomai—the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Japanese territory. However, the Japanese-U.S. security treaty already existed when this declaration was being concluded and U.S. troops were already stationed on Japanese territory at the time.

Since then the Japanese Government has consistently striven to secure the return of the four islands, but the USSR Government continued to cleave to the idea that there is no territorial problem between Japan and the USSR. The unilateral understanding of the issue that developed as a result among Soviet public opinion is the major factor currently complicating the resolution of the problem of the four northern islands.

We have set out our stance on the legal aspect of the question of the four northern islands. We will now touch on other aspects mentioned by V. Kovalev. First, the economic aspect. We have absolutely no intention of "swapping economic cooperation for the islands" or of "buying the islands." In light of the above historical facts Japan regards this issue as a problem of restoring legality and justice in relations between our two countries; because long-term friendly relations based on mutual trust cannot be created without that. The latter will boost the possibilities of Japanese-Russian economic cooperation and will benefit both countries over a long time.

V. Kovalev also wrote about Russia's border problems with other countries. Here we would point out that the problem of the four northern islands—unlike other territories in the former USSR, the demarcation of which has already been established by the Helsinki Final Act—is the only problem where territories were not legally delimited for Russia following the war.

V. Kovalev then wrote about "concessions" made by "weak" countries. However, Japan is not demanding the secession of Russian territory or exploiting the difficult situation in Russia today. It is only asking for a new view to be taken of history and for its historical territory to be returned, territory that another country seized by force. It is not a concession when you set a past mistake right. On the contrary, the boldness of this act and the sense of justice should merit the high opinion of the world community.

The conclusion of a peace treaty by resolving the territorial problem will establish long-term friendly relations between Japan and Russia based on mutual trust. This will open up a host of untapped possibilities not only for the two countries' economies but also in the diplomatic field. This factor should not be made an instrument of domestic political struggle or personal ambition in either Japan or Russia. We have faith in the Russian people's traditional sense of justice.

Kunadze Cited on Settling Kurils Dispute

PM2707195192 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 28 Jul 92 p 1

["Topical Interview" with Deputy Foreign Minister Georgiy Kunadze by unidentified correspondent; place and date not given: "Kurils: The View From Smolensk Square"—first paragraph is introduction]

[Text] Passions are dying down and then flaring up again over the postwar settlement of relations with Japan. Right now there is a new upsurge of interest in this problem. We asked Deputy Foreign Minister Georgiy Kunadze to explain the Foreign Ministry's position on this issue.

[Kunadze] The Foreign Ministry has always seen and continues to see our main task as upholding Russian national interests. The Foreign Ministry has always believed that a final postwar settlement of our relations with Japan is undoubtedly in keeping with this task. From our viewpoint, without taking this quite indispensable step, we will not be able to turn over this page of postwar history in Asia as successfully as we have done in Europe. And this means that right now international relations as a whole, and Russian foreign policy as a component part of them, cannot fail to make the transition to a different—postconflict—dimension. The longer the question of a final postwar settlement with Japan drags on, the more it will drag us backward and prevent us from making the transition to this different dimension. We do not want this and intend to make every effort to prevent it from happening.

The path to a settlement is familiar to everyone. It is the normal path of diplomatic talks. Needless to say, we may encounter sudden finds, unexpected twists, and surprise arguments along this path. But all this should be implemented completely and solely within the framework of legality and justice. The age-old position that "the law means what we say it means," so popular in our country, is not acceptable to us. For us the guideline applied in all democratic countries is the rule: The law is stronger than authority. In other words, no authorities, including the executive and the legislative authorities either singly or jointly, can place themselves in opposition to the demands of the law. In this case the norms and principles of international law.

Navy Deems Discussion on Kurils Inadvisable

LD2807090192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0826 GMT 28 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Aleksey Tabachnikov]

[Text] Moscow July 28 TASS—Proceeding from the interests of security of the Russian Federation, it is now inexpedient to talk about transferring to Japan if only part of the South Kurils. This is said in the conclusion of the main staff of the Russian Navy prepared for the closed-door parliamentary hearings on Russo-Japanese relations and the constitutional problem of the Russian territorial integrity. The hearings are conducted by the Russian Parliament on Tuesday [28 July].

Meanwhile, a similar conclusion of the General Staff of the Russian Defence Ministry suggests that the problem of a peace treaty with Japan be solved on a basis of five-stage plan for the settlement of the territorial issue. A speedy settlement of the territorial issue, the pursuit of instant economic advantage can have most negative consequences in perspective, the General Staff stresses.

The General Staff also proposed to consider halting unilateral reduction of Russian troops in the South Kuriles until the final political decision on the settlement of the Russo-Japanese territorial problem is made.

Concesssions to Japan 'Impermissable'

LD2807112592 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1104 GMT 28 Jul 92

[Text] Moscow July 28 TASS—Territorial concessions to Japan, at least in the foreseeable future, are impermissible as they do not suit Russia's strategic interests. The Russian military will uphold this stand at the closed-door parliamentary hearings on Russo-Japanese relations and territorial integrity of the Russian Federation, held in Moscow on Tuesday [28 July]. TASS learned this from reliable sources in the Russian Defence Ministry.

The stand of the Russian military on the territorial issue is based on the understanding that all treaties and agreements, including the 1956 joint declaration, remain valid in relations between the two countries.

Assessing the political, economic and military aspects of the problem, the Defence Ministry believes that any concessions of Russian territory to another state may call in question one of the basic principles of the Russian foreign policy—the inviolability of postwar frontiers. In addition, the Japanese side may get the impression that by assuming a tough stand, it can get new, larger territorial concessions from Russia in future. The military believe that the pliancy of Russian diplomacy may trigger off a "chain reaction" of territorial claims by a number of adjacent states and also weaken Russia's stand at the border talks with China.

The Defence Ministry believes that the tranfer of the South Kuril Islands to Japan will disunite forces of the Pacific Fleet, deprive it of the outlet to the high seas through unfreezing straits and will give access to naval and airforces of a possible adversary to the Sea of Okhotsk. The single radar field in the east of Russia will be broken off and the stability of anti-landing defences of troops in the Far East will be lowered. In view of all this, there will be a need for considerable material and financial outlays for the consolidation of Russia's security in the East.

The Russian high military commanders intend to prove convincingly during the hearings that the Kuril islands are of strategic, political and economic importance to Russia. This is why their tranfer to Japan is hardly expedient in the foreseeable future for economic considerations, and is extremely dangerous for security reasons.

Arms, Munitions Confiscated at Dniester Border

PM2707152992 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1900 GMT 22 Jul 92

[Report by S. Barabanov and V. Babenko; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] [Barabanov over video of four men surveying an arms haul] According to the Russian Ministry of Security, there are some 30 million items, including various firearms, on the loose on the territory of the former Union. This means that virtually one in three adult males is armed and therefore very dangerous.

Unquestionably, one of the channels through which weapons are escaping is the Dniester region. It is no problem for a journalist today to film reports like this. At militia departments in any Odessa Oblast rayon bordering on Moldova you will be able to see approximately the same collection of arms as here.

During the past month 42 automatic weapons and pistols, more than 400 grenades, more than 6,000 cartridges, and several grenade launchers were confiscated at border check points.

A whole arms dump was discovered in a luggage locker at Odessa Railroad Station.

Passengers on a train from Odessa to Yasinovataya tried to settle a difference of opinion with the help of a grenade.

Ninety percent of the confiscated weapons are models currently in the 14th Army arsenal, which seems to supply both sides involved in the conflict whether it likes it or not.

The people traveling in this white Zaporozhets car have just been detained. They were trying to smuggle an automatic weapon, pistols, and an antitank grenade launcher across the border. They have refused to be filmed or to admit affiliation to any sort of organization.

Weapons are being taken out by Russian cossacks who are currently leaving the Dniester region, by fighters of the Ukrainian self-defense forces who are fighting here, and by couriers who come here specifically for this purpose. [Video shows four men surveying an arms haul, close-ups of the confiscated arms, more close-ups of arms, soldiers and civilians standing around a white car, close-up of weapons on car hood.]

Neutrality of 14th Army in Dniester Doubted

LD2407183592 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 24 Jul 92

[Report by correspondent N. Pavlov; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Many people believe that a resolution to the Dniester conflict should involve a neutral and peacekeeping force acting as a cease-fire guarantor, and the 14th Army is often named in that capacity. However, this option is unlikely to be feasible because of the close links between this Army's servicemen and the Dniester-Moldovan Republic. Officially, the Army's stand is one of armed neutrality. In fact, though, most of its servicemen are local residents. Accordingly, they cannot remain indifferent to the events taking place around their bases. Not by chance are Dniester people now collecting signatures for a petition to the Russian president against the Army's withdrawal.

[Begin recording] [V. Bakhtin, chairman of the officer's assembly] The Army will pull out if the order comes, but realistically we will not be able to take our equipment with us. Our way will be blocked.

[Pavlov] So the Moldovan side is likely to refuse to agree to the 14th Army as a disengagement force, but is there any other more acceptable option?

[Unidentified officer] If a parachute regiment is brought in and stationed here, this will be a real move toward disengagement. [end recording]

Peacekeeping Battalions To Go to Dniester

LD2807112192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1114 GMT 28 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vadim Brykin]

[Text] Moscow July 28 TASS—Russia will send six battalions of peace-keepers to the Dniester region of Moldova. They will include airborne units from Tula and Pskov, TASS learned from reliable sources on Tuesday [28 July].

Moldova and Ukraine will send two battalions of peacekeepers each, according to the source.

Part of Russian peace-keepers have already left for the conflict area by train. The remaining units will be airlifted on Wednesday.

Paper on Dniester Accord, Warns of Opposition

PM2407141392 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Jul 92 Morning Edition p 1

[Report by Valeriy Vyzhutovich: "Peace-Making Diplomacy Prevails: First in South Ossetia, Now in Dniester Region"]

[Text] On 21 July there was a meeting in the Kremlin between Moldovan President Mircea Snegur and Russian President Boris Yeltsin during which they signed an agreement on the settlement of the Dniester region conflict. The document envisages introducing a tripartite peace-making force (comprising subunits from Russia, Moldova, and the Dniester region) into the region, creating "security corridors," and effecting the gradual withdrawal of the 14th Army from the territory of Moldova. Economic measures are also envisaged: removal of the blockade, return of the refugees, and provision of assistance for them.

If the "party of war" is not an invention of exultant publicists but a real figure on the Russian political stage, then its combat positions can be considered to have been hit hard. The signing by Boris Yeltsin and Mircea Snegur of guarantees of a peaceful outcome in the Dniester region will cool the great power ardor of the imperial statehood enthusiasts, for how long no one knows. No doubt certain hotheads both in parliament and in the Defense Ministry will be visited on further occasions in the future by the temptation to use the national-patriotic compass to find a way out of the crisis.

But it is a fait accompli. The phased withdrawal of Moldovan and Dniester region heavy equipment and military formations from the areas of confrontation, the disengagement of the sides with the aid of the peacemaking force, the lifting of the blockade and restrictions on the movement of goods, the return of refugees—here you have the letter and spirit of the longed-for peace, of which the Russian president, having overcome hysterical opposition pressure, is one of the guarantors, and not only he. Aleksandr Rutskoy's latest visit to Moldova revealed to the world "another" vice president, not at all the one whose assessments and statements about Moldova only a month ago reeked of cordite. Did Rutskoy make his final choice under the influence of pragmatic colleagues in the Civic Union or did he temporarily back off, obeying some new correlation of forces at the top in Russia? It is idle to speculate about this when faced with a fait accompli: For the first time in the past 18 months the president and his vice president see eye to eye on the Dniester region problem and ways of resolving it.

The communique on the meeting between Yeltsin and Snegur says that the presidents agreed on the observance by all interested sides of the following basic principles: respect for the sovereignty, independence, and territorial

integrity of the Republic of Moldova; unswerving observance of human rights, including the rights of individuals belonging to ethnic minorities; definition by political—including parliamentary—methods of the special status of the Dniester region's Left Bank as part of the Republic of Moldova; granting the population of the Dniester region's Left Bank the right to decide their own future in the event of a change in the status of Republic of Moldova statehood; exclusion of all actions by any side that might prevent a settlement of the conflict by peaceful political means.

The Moldovan leadership, as we can see, also found the will and the courage, under pressure from its own national patriots, to renounce power politics in favor of peace-making diplomacy in accordance with the recognized norms of international law, the provisions of the UN Charter, and CSCE accords. Defense Minister Ion Kostas and National Security Minister Anatol Plugaru fell foul of the new course, as zealous amd implacable advocates of firearm "debates." But Snegur has yet to overcome resistance from his parliamentary "hawks" in defining the special status of the Dniester Region as part of Moldova. Until the 14th Army leaves the conflict zone its presence there will be an excuse for denying the Dniester region special political status and will also preserve the pretext for continuing to suspect Russia of aggressive intentions.

No doubt Yeltsin too will come under fire in parliament as soon as the next session embarks on ratification of the treaty on the principles of interstate relations between Russia and Moldova. The insane proposal on recognition of the Dniester region's independence and on its becoming part of the Russian Federation, so far laboriously rejected, could win supoport if, despite the accords that have been reached, there is a further flare-up on the Left Bank of the Dniester.

No one, of course, should harbor the illusion that the signed agreement will make the "party of war," if it exists, wave the white flag and hurriedly capitulate. Judging by what Sergey Stankevich said at the 21 July news conference, there will be no unconditional capitulation. The state adviser again talked of the great power approach [derzhavnost] as the means they have at last happily found of ideologically reinforcing the reforms. If that is the new state ideology, how will it be practiced? Will it be a consistent extension of the new peace-making policy or a return to imperial sources?

Defense Minister Addresses Institute in UK

LD2507131892 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1916 GMT 24 Jul 92

[Text] [no dateline as received] Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev has given a lecture at the Royal United Services Institute.

Judging by the questions, two problems—the presence of the troops of the former USSR in the Baltic republics and the conflict in the Dniester region—were of particular interest to those who gathered at the Royal United Services Institute. As they were told, relations between Russia and the Baltic republics "are evolving in a difficult manner." The leaders of these countries regard the presence of the troops there as an "occupation," and "we do not agree with them on this." Demanding an immediate withdrawal of troops, at the same time they "do not take any steps" to guarantee social protection of the military or help in implementing the withdrawal of troops. The troops will not be withdrawn to "an empty field." Russia has strategic interests in the Baltic region. In particular, Kaliningrad oblast "has been, is, and will remain a Russian land," and "a separate Army corps with the numerical strength capable of resisting any aggression" will be deployed there. But Russia does not have strategic interests in the Baltic states themselves.

To a question on to what degree the 14th Army can serve as a basis for forming Russian forces as part of a peacekeeping formation of the Commonwealth countries in the Dniester region, those present were told that the 14th Army represented "a unit of the Russian Army temporarily deployed on the Moldovan territory." It will maintain "complete neutrality" providing its positions are not attacked from the air. Indeed, there were cases when some servicemen deserted the 14th Army and went over to the side of the Dniester Moldovan Republic together with weapons and equipment. Mainly, these were locals who amount to 40 percent of the strength of the 14th Army. It is practically impossible to confiscate these weapons since "women and children lie down" in front of servicemen and no commander will give an order to shoot at them. Nevertheless, as was stressed, partially Russian peacekeeping forces in the Dniester region could indeed be formed on the basis of the 14th Army since it was already in the region and it was easier to regroup it.

Those gathered at the Royal United Services Institute were also told that leaders of the Russian Army as well as leaders of the Russian security "fully share Yeltsin's policy and will never allow any provocations against him."

'Very Satisfied' With Visit

LD2507044592 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 2000 GMT 24 Jul 92

[Correspondent V. Shishkovskiy report from Great Britain; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] In the opinion of the British mass media, the first official visit to Great Britain by Army General Pavel Grachev, Russian Federation defense minister, was very sudcessful. Important talks were held with Malcolm Rifkind, British secretary of state for defense, and other military leaders from the British Army. These talks led to a joint statement providing for the expansion of cooperation in various spheres.

A Russian military delegation toured the country, visiting various units and garrisions of the British Army and Navy. Pavel Grachev visited a center for retraining British reservists and decided to make use of the useful experience accumulated by the British in this field to resolve our problems as well.

[Begin Grachev recording] The purpose of our visit was to strengthen further cooperation in the military sphere between the young Army of Russia and the Army of Great Britain. I have to say that I am very satisfied with the visit. I had the opportunity to familiarize myself with the daily life and routine of soldiers, corporals and the officer corps alike. I have absorbed a great many useful things beyond what I had planned. Much of what we have seen is acceptable to us. [end recording]

Adopts Military Cooperation Plan

PM2707083992 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Jul 92 p 2

[ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Voronkov report: "Military Contacts Expanding"]

[Text] London, 24 Jul—By the end of the year Russia and Britain will complete the elaboration of and adopt a two-year program for the further development of relations in the military sphere. That is one of the results of the official visit here by Army General Pavel Grachev, Russian Federation defense minister.

The joint statement adopted here with British Defense Secretary Malcolm Rifkind envisages the continuation of cooperation in strengthening and advancing international agreements on cutting arms and armed forces to the level necessary for defense purposes. The sides also agreed to cooperate on questions of taking further measures to prevent the spread of weapons, including nuclear and other means of mass destruction. As the document emphasizes, Russia and Britain intend to cooperate in strengthening monitoring of compliance with the ban on the development [razrabotka], production, and storage of bacteriological and toxin weapons, and verification of their destruction.

The new elements in relations between the two countries in the military sphere are an exchange of opinions on the questions of running the armed forces under the conditions of democracy, cooperation, and the retraining and job placement of discharged servicemen, an exchange of military academy students, and the establishment of military sports links.

This fall, the statement reports, there will be an exchange of opinions between delegations from the Russian Armed Forces General Staff and the British Defense Staff. The heads of the military departments expressed their readiness to pursue contacts and, to this end, M. Rifkind will visit Russia in early 1993.

Paper Hails Presence at ASEAN Parley

PM2707125392 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Jul 92 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by Vladimir Mikheyev: "Moscow Seeks Partners in Southeast Asia"]

[Text] The invitation to Foreign Minister A. Kozyrev to attend the 25th conference of ASEAN foreign ministers in Manila was unprecedented and for that very reason merits approval. Russia, which was present as a guest of honor, with China and Vietnam, has relinquished—as Kozyrev put it—superpower status, which should, according to him, serve as a powerful stiumulus to the organization of cooperation with the countries of this dynamically developing region.

First and foremost, the emphasis should not be shifted: The questions of paramount importance for ASEAN were those of creating a free economic zone in the region, a settlement in Cambodia against the background of increasing Khmer Rouge intractability, and the rekindled territorial dispute over the Spratly Islands. The exchange of opinions with the Moscow, Beijing, and Hanoi envoys clearly came under the "other business" heading. ASEAN's interest in introducing them to its "headaches" is due to the fact that, to use the Singapore defense minister's words, the end of the cold war revealed other sources of tension that could potentially develop into regional conflicts.

Since both the United States and Russia are reducing their military presence in the region and the "power vacuum" is being filled by rivalry among the region's countries, there is an objective need to restore equilibrium. But with the aid of a mechanism of political consultations and a coordinated quest for compromises and mutual commitments in accordance with international law. The presence of the "heavyweight" states is essential, it seems.

There was no documentary record of Russia's introduction to the region's problems in Manila. The only official agreement was the accord on establishing an air link, transit and direct, between Moscow and Manila. Although agreements on abolishing dual taxation, on investment, and on collaboration in various areas, from agriculture to sport, are being worked on, but that is for the future.

Editorial on ASEAN Meeting

PM2807150392 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Jul 92 p 3

["View From the Editorial Office" by Viktor Pritula: "Russians in Cam Ranh Bay Don't Worry Baker"]

[Text] Previously ASEAN conferences generally took place amid the confrontation between this alliance and "Moscow's satellites" in Indochina, which rendered these meetings uneasy and forced their participants to

increase their military potential and at the same time seek a patron across the Pacific.

In this respect the ASEAN foreign ministers' 25th conference in Manila was strikingly different from previous meetings primarily in terms of its agenda and the guests present. At the end of the meeting, moreover, two of them became members of the ASEAN club—I am referring to Vietnam and Laos; and as for the third "Moscow satellite"—Cambodia—the ASEAN members are extremely optimistic about its future and hope to see this country in their midst.

That is perhaps the main plus to come out of the meeting in Manila, although there is another extremely important achievement—the statement that the question of the disputed Spratly Islands is to be resolved peacefully. PRAVDA has already said that there have once again been major upheavals between Vietnam and China over this problem in recent days.

The Chinese minister displayed restraint at the meeting in Manila, while our Russian minister produced a sensation by saying that even if Russia is not now a superpower, it has no intention of pulling out of the region and will keep its base in Vietnam's Cam Ranh Bay. The Vietnamese were of course delighted with this statement, regarding it as the first step toward good relations with their old partner, which over the last few years has not been notable for particular constancy in its affections.

With inherent Asiatic courtesy the six ASEAN countries heard out Kozyrev's assurances of the sincerity of Russia's sympathies for the southeastern "tigers," but remained very alarmed over the Sino-Russian arms trade, in particular the trade in warships. They therefore decided to strengthen their countries' defense capability despite the guests' peaceable assurances, based on the idea of "put your trust in God, but keep your powder dry."

U.S. Secretary of State Baker arrived in Manila toward the end of the meeting and spoke highly of his Russian colleague's Pacific policy, voicing no concern at our presence in Cam Ranh Bay. I must point out that the big game played by Baker's Russian counterpart is more obvious to the former. Let Kozyrev flatter his vanity with his Vietnamese friends' firm support. There are things more important than Cam Ranh Bay today. Namely? The "northern territories," certainly; or, more accurately, the Kurils. Here Kozyrev seems to have "drifted" considerably, unlike the base in Cam Ranh Bay, which is going nowhere.

Kozyrev Tells Siberians of Asian Policy

PM2707151192 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Jul 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Aleksey Tarasov report: "Regions Will Play Decisive Role in Russia's Partnership With the East"]

[Text] Krasnoyarsk—Russian Federation Minister of Foreign Affairs Andrey Kozyrev acquainted Siberians with Russia's Asian policy on the evening of 23 July at a meeting with Krasnodar Kray authorities and industrialists.

The minister pointed out that the United States and Canada, which we are accustomed to call Western countries, are in actual fact our eastern neighbors. Such a departure from the established geopolitical stereotype allowed Andrey Kozyrev, when speaking about the politics of the Asia-Pacific region, to link Boris Yeltsin's visits to the United States and Canada which have already taken place with forthcoming ones to South Korea and Japan.

The leader of the Russian Federation Foreign Ministry also reported that the thorough talk he had had in Manila with the Chinese foreign minister had also given him much hope. This contact specifically gives us the hope that the "work connected with the Russo-Chinese border will be completed on mutually acceptable and honorable terms." According to Kozyrev there has been no decision as yet on the Russian president's visiting Beijing, but the Foreign Ministry will recommend that the trip takes place as early as in November.

The propitious political climate will definitely require closer economic cooperation between the neighbors. The Russian Foreign Ministry head called on inhabitants of Krasnoyarsk to develop their foreign economic activities, especially with the Chinese provinces. This is the main hope for revitalizing the regions, Kozyrev emphasized. It is these which should play the decisive role in forging links with partners abroad.

The local military industrial complex's "chiefs of staff" listened in silence and without emotion to the minister's proposals. About the problems of numbered cities: switching from closed settlements and regions to closed facilities. About conversion: It is necessary to make a decision—either an enterprise remains closed, and consequently there can be no question about any kind of conversion, or, if it is decided to give it a new specialization, it is necessary to finally grant access to it and provide information about its potential to possible partners.

The lack of agreement by several defense industry figures with the policy of the Russian Foreign Ministry nevertheless showed through in certain questions. For example, having reminded the minister of the incident concerning deliveries of missile and space technology to India, they asked him: Is it absolutely necessary to coordinate such contracts with the Russian and U.S. foreign ministers? To which Kozyrev replied: "It is necessary. Because we have an interest in the nonproliferation of missile technology."

Commenting on the state of the CIS, Kozyrev said that in this respect experience of the regional integration of the ASEAN states—from a conference of which the minister had arrived in Krasnoyarsk—is interesting. These countries have during a short space of time turned themselves from extremely backward countries into

dynamically developing "Asiatic dragons," having organized close cooperation among themselves. Entering the traditional international community, though this is an exceptionally important task, the minister said, will not be successful and sufficient for us if we do not succeed in creating a genuine commonwealth of former Soviet republics. Now, the Foreign Ministry head stated, we have completely incontrovertible confirmation of the fact that the momentum toward the dispersal of the former Union republics has stopped.

Shokhin Views Relations With CIS Members

LD2407205192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1818 GMT 24 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow July 24 TASS—Russian Vice-Premier Aleksandr Shokhin has visited the Republics of Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan to "impart a political impulse to the solution of a number of problems in bilateral relations".

Upon his return to Moscow from his 4-day trip today, Shokhin told journalists that the task of the tour was as good as accomplished.

His talks with the leaders of the four republics ensured the solution of problems connected with mutual supplies of products and the impact of the Russian non-payment crisis on trade and economic relations between Russia and these republics.

Shokhin said he had discussed also military-political and diplomatic relations with the four republics.

The future of the rouble zone was on the agenda of talks as well, with Russia putting forth two scenarios—one urging the republics to remain within the rouble zone, the other giving the go-ahead to the introduction of national currencies.

"We thought it more important to probe their stance towards the problem than to talk them into remaining in the rouble zone," Shokhin said.

According to him, the leaders of the four republics agreed in principle to stay within the rouble zone, but reserved the right to "think it over" once again if the Russian payment crisis affects their economies any stronger.

Shokhin said that according to expert estimates the introduction of national currencies by all ex-Soviet republics would increase the production slump in Russia by another 15 per cent and in other Commonwealth member-states—by 40 per cent.

Asked about the possibility of forming a new ministry for commonwealth affairs within the Russian Government, Shokhin said he was not in favour of the idea.

"I don't think that a new mechanism of this kind can be more viable that the Russian Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defence and the Russian State Committee for Economic Cooperation with Commonwealth Countries which currently handle all the different functions relating to Commonwealth affairs", he said.

Along with this, Shokhin said it was advisable to set up an interdepartmental commission attached to the government to coordinate the activity of Russian ministries and departments relating to the Commonwealth.

Comments on Strengthening CIS

OW2707182792 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1637 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Report by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovsky, and Vladimir Shishlin from "Presidential Bulletin"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russian vice-premier Aleksandr Shokhin said that his trip through four Central Asian CIS countries last week was undertaken at the initiative of the Russian president to activate contacts with Russia's neighbors. Talking with several reporters, including IF's Beijing XINHUA English Andrey Pershin, Shokhin noted that he had been accompanied on the tour by Russia's ambassadors in the Central Asian republics "who still live in Moscow" and who thereby got a chance "to visit the countries they have been assigned to."

Deputy chairman of the government said that the talks with the heads of governments and state of Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan focused on goods delivery snafus and military and political problems.

Shokhin mentioned several models for decision-making within the bilateral relations of problems arising around the former Soviet Army. He specified that under the command of the united armed forces of the CIS only the units under the jurisdiction of a republic can be placed.

For example, recent talks between Russia and Byelarus in Moscow resulted in an agreement on military cooperation under which part of the strategic forces on Byelarus soil was placed under Russian jurisdiction with the subsequent transfer under the command of the CIS common forces.

According to Shokhin, the visit to Tajikistan found another form of cooperation in the military sphere. An agreement was anchored on Tajikistan's delegating to Russia of functions to protect its state border by former Soviet border guard whom Russia placed under own jurisdiction. Tajikistan will gradually put these assets under own jurisdiction and use them to equip an own military.

Russia also made a deal with the Turkmen leadership on dual command of the former Soviet troops on the territory of that state. Part of the troops (the way they are now) are placed under Turkmen jurisdiction. The republican border will be protected by both Russian and Turkmen border guard units. According to Shokhin, the

military assured him that, despite the seeming complexity of this decision, in practice the "dual command" will not cause confusion; in fact it will be an efficient troop control mechanism.

Shokhin said that he had discussed with his partners the issue of the future of the ruble zone "and put on the table two draft agreements" - one on participation in it and one on refusal to participate. He emphasized that Russia "finds it important not to persuade someone to stay on in the ruble zone, but to identity who will stay and who will not." Russia expects to get an answer in August. Shokhin says that "if the crisis of non-payments is tackled, the issue of own currencies will not be raised for the time being." In principle, he said, "everyone wants to introduce own currency but cannot do that."

The vice-premier noted that his talks in the Central Asia had been an attempt "to activate bilateral relations, upgrade the CIS, and to better get the idea of the CIS real configuration." He emphasized that at present "no one seeks to search for a new construction instead of the CIS." However, the deputy cabinet head did not rule out the possibility of such a construction inside the CIS becoming "a result of a lengthy process." He gave to understand that Russia attaches importance to the formal construction of the CIS, rather than to preservation of numerous, first of all economic, ties. According to him, following the collapse of the economic ties after the demise of the USSR, the common economic space may be restored as a result of a lengthy process during several years."

Shokhin spoke out against the Russian leadership's plans to create a Russian CIS ministry. According to him, this structure, with functions overlapping with the Foreign Ministry's, will not be efficient in diplomatic terms. Also, the current Russian state committee for economic ties with the CIS nations, said Shokhin, is a well-balanced collective that can only be disorganized, if replaced by another structure. The vice-premier spoke in favor of an active use of "economic diplomacy" leverage and a mechanism for interdepartmental coordination and regular governmental contacts.

Diplomatic Agreement Signed With Turkmenistan

OW2707130492 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1215 GMT 27 Jul 92

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] As a result of a visit paid to Ashgabat by Deputy Prime Minister Aleksandr Shokhin Russia and Turkmenistan have initialled their agreement on cooperation in carrying out diplomatic representation abroad.

The agreement enables the government of Turkmenistan to authorize Russia's diplomatic or consular staff to represent its interests.

The agreement also stipulates that "in the presence of direct diplomatic relations with the countries where they are located Turkmenistan's diplomatic missions can use special communication facilities belonging to Russian diplomatic institutions". The agreement will be in force for 5 years. Subsequently it will be automatically prolonged.

Besides, participants in the talks in Ashgabat agreed to consider the possibility of transferring a 7-hectare plot of land with all its buildings in the Iranian city of Mashhad to Turkmenistan.

Paper Says IMF To Help Pay Membership Dues

PM2707111192 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Jul 92 Morning Edition p 1

[ITAR-TASS report: "G-7 Gives Russia Money for IMF Membership Dues"]

[Text] Tokyo—The G-7 has reached an unprecedented agreement to loan Russia money so that it can pay its IMF membership dues and, accordingly, start receiving credit from this organization. Japan's leading economic newspaper, NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN, has announced this.

The leaders of the seven largest industrial states agreed at their recent meeting in Munich to start providing Russia with credit via the IMF. THe first $1 billion package of credits is to be granted in August. However, by then Russia, which joined the IMF in April, should have paid its initial quota as a new member, a quota set at 2,876 billion so-called "special drawing rights" [SDR], the IMF's unit of payment.

This sum is equivalent to roughly $4.136 billion. Under existing regulations Russia can pay the bulk of it in rubles, but 22.7 percent, that is almost $940 million, must be paid in SDR or other hard currency, which Moscow does not have at its disposal.

On this basis the G-7 countries have agreed to give Russia the required amount of SDR, which, international financial sources in Tokyo indicate, may occur by the end of July. The United States and West Europe will provide roughly two-fifths of the total each, while Japan will provide roughly one-fifth. As soon as Russia has paid its dues, it will be able to borrow this sum directly from the IMF and thus settle up with the G-7.

The main upshot of all these operations will be that Russia acquires a chance to receive the first batch of credit from the IMF.

Period of 'Cold War' Key to Near East Peace

PM2807100492 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 28 Jul 92 First Edition p 7

[Vladimir Batyuk and Dmitriy Yevstafyev article under the "Opinion" rubric: "If A 'Cold War' Starts in the Near East..."]

[Text] It has now become good form in the Foreign Ministry and the highest corridors of Russian power to

say that the Near East is extremely important for Russia. But, against the backdrop of these statements, it is increasingly obvious that Russia lacks any independent foreign policy line in this area.

It is understandable that our country cannot now claim any global role in the Near East. Nor does it need to. It is merely a question of defining Russia's Near East interests and pursuing a policy in accordance with them.

Unlike Washington, for Moscow participation in the region's affairs is not about the projection of political influence but is an acute national security problem, since very many processes in the CIS' Asian republics—as well as in Russia itself—have primarily religious and ethnic roots in the Near East.

But the situation there is confused. The problems of the Near East have been unsolved now for many decades.

Until quite recently considerable hope for easing these problems had been pinned on the multilateral conference on the Near East. Although from the outset a number of specialists expressed serious reservations about the possibility of achieving quick results at it. It can now be said that they got it right. Moreover, it seems that this forum—essentially a means to an end, be it under the auspices of the United Nations, the United States, or the USSR (and now Russia)—changed its aims somewhere along the way.

There is growing disenchantment in Arab capitals with "contacts" with Tel Aviv. Under certain circumstances this discontent could result in certain Arab regimes returning to attempts to reach a solution by force. So far this has not happened; we need to seek new ways toward a Near East settlement.

The Palestinian question is considered to be the core of the Near East conflict. But is this the case?

In order to answer that question we must first ask what is the primary threat to Israeli security. A possible large-scale war against a coalition of several Arab states, which under certain circumstances could "drive the Israelis into the sea." Consequently, in order to improve the situation in the Near East we need first to remove this threat. Then we need to remove the political contradictions and set about the task of producing a regional system of collective security. Only with this comprehensive approach to the Near East crisis will it be possible to resolve the Palestinian problem.

But, in order for the very concept of the need for a security system to emerge, both Arabs and Israelis need a sufficiently long interval of peace similar to that which East and West enjoyed during the "cold war" period, which is now spoken of only in bad terms.

Yet it was that "era"—which lasted from 1946 to 1991 - that saw unprecedented prosperity for West Europe, Japan, and the other Asian "dragons." It would have been impossible without the political stability which the "cold war" guaranteed. It was then that these unwritten rules of mutual relations between the leaders of the bipolar world—the Soviet Union and the United States—were laid down. Rules which allowed these relationships to be more predictable. It was then that relatively successful attempts were made to limit the arms race and place it within some sort of agreed framework.

Finally, it was during the "cold war" that the complex infrastructure of East-West relations was created. (Many of its elements are in use today and, clearly, will continue to be in use in the future. We need only recall the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and the numerous talks on disarmament and other problems. It helped to produce the climate of confidence between East and West, which ultimately led to the erosion of the foundations of the "cold war" itself. [no closing parentheses]

That is why the Near East needs a relatively long "cold war" period during which the sides would work out definite "ground rules"—a kind of code for nonmilitary confrontation and coexistence along the lines of what East and West engineered from the late forties through the early nineties.

The potential of outside forces in this area is quite great. First, the question should be raised of a mutually acceptable agreement between weapons-exporting states—above all, the United States, France, China, and Russia—on the principles underlying shipments of arms and military technology to the region. Such an agreement would, on the one hand, reduce—albeit temporarily—the dangers posed by the uncontrolled arms race which is constantly accelerating in the Near East. On the other hand, it would rule out any monopoly on interpreting the various restrictive agreements in this sphere in a high-handed fashion—as recently demonstrated, for instance, by the United States in the case of the sale by Russia of rocket engines to India.

Second, given that, as we have already said, the main threat to peace in the Near East does not come from an armed clash between the Arab states and Israel—history shows that their "hot wars" can be over very rapidly—independent monitoring and evaluation of the situation with the help of the potential (including technical potential) of countries such as the United States or Russia and the publication of information on military preparations and activeness would be of colossal importance in strengthening stability. (A future U.S.-Russian global system for protection against limited nuclear strikes, the first talks on which were held recently in Moscow, could probably play a part too). Because covert concentrations of troops and, consequently, surprise attacks, would be ruled out. Moreover, even despite the fact that this Near East "transparency" would have been "imported," the foundations would thereby be laid for future monitoring and confidence-building measures between the countries of the region. Russia would then have a chance to use the potential of its space sector for the good of the world community.

Our position should, in our view, be that certain steps in the arms control sphere in the region could be implemented in parallel and, in certain cases, in advance of the political settlement process. (Moreover, this "advance" could create a real basis for progress at the political level). First and foremost, it is a question of starting talks on those elements of the sides' military potential which have the greatest prospects for combat use in armed conflicts—nuclear, chemical, and bacteriological weapons, as well as ballistic missiles.

And if people currently dismiss this threat out of hand, thinking that there are no nuclear weapons in the Near East—there is no guarantee that they may not appear there in the future... [The article is accompanied by the following editorial office note: "Articles published by ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA under the "Opinion" rubric do not necessarily reflect the editorial office's position"]

Ministry Defends Adherence to DPRK Treaty

PM2707151592 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Jul 92 Morning Edition p 4

["Own Information" report: "Friendship Treaty With DPRK Remains in Force"]

[Text] A number of newspapers in the ROK contain reports on a statement by an ROK Defense Ministry spokesman on the need to annul the friendship, cooperation, and mutual aid treaty between the USSR and the DPRK dating from 1961, or the article in it that deals with military aspects.

The Russian Federation Foreign Ministry has stated in this respect that Russia is observing all the USSR's obligations as regards international treaties and agreements. Needless to say, this also applies to the said treaty with the DPRK, which retains all its force and is still an important element in the military and economic stability on the Korean Peninsula.

Embassy in India Protests 'Diplomatic Terrorism'

LD2407172492 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1130 GMT 24 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Karmlito]

[Text] Dehli, 24 Jul—The Russian Embassy in India today made a verbal representation to this country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs in connection with the unprecedented situation which arose around the Russian cultural center in Dehli, the staff of which were, for all intents and purposes, hostages of striking Indian personnel. Starting on 21 July, about 40 Indians stopped work, protesting the staff cuts as a result of the reorganization taking place at the cultural center of the Russian Embassy. Not confining themselves to noisy expressions of their discontent, they blocked the entrance and stood in the way of students attending Russian language classes and visiting the library, beat up a janitor who did not want to join the strike and even threatened to cut off the power and water supply in the building where apart from offices there are also staff apartments. Throughout today the strikers have continued to maintain their siege, "occupying" the inner courtyard and lower floor of the cultural department.

The embassy's statement notes that such a situation is tantamount to the violation of diplomatic immunity and of the status of an extraterritorial foreign mission and runs counter not only to customs and civilized practice but to legislation regulating the holding of demonstrations in front of foreign diplomatic missions in Dehli. It has been stated to the Indian Ministry of Foreign Affairs that if the measures needed to normalize the situation are not taken, this will be viewed as "pandering to unlawful actions by the citizens of the host country and as an act of diplomatic terrorism."

Federation Affairs

Political Issues

Democratic Russia Creates Constituent Alliance

LD2707135192 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1000 GMT 27 Jul 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] A new organization, the Russian Constituent Alliance [Rossiyskiy Uchreditelnyy Soyuz], was set up at the congress of the Democratic Russia Movement which gathered together those who consider that Russia is now being governed by the second echelon of the communist establishment. It proposes close cooperation with the radical section of the movement. The aim of the new organization is to convoke a constituent assembly for the adoption of a constitution and the reelection of all power bodies in the country.

Nina Andreyeva Remarks on CPSU Future

OW2407071092 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0545 GMT 24 Jul 92

[Interview with General Secretary Nina Andreyeva of the Russian Communist Party of Bolsheviks (RCPB) by Natalya Zhukova; from the "Nation and Society" feature; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Interfax's Natalya Zhukova has had the following interview with General Secretary of the Russian Communist Party of Bolsheviks (RCPB) Nina Andreyeva: Correspondent: What is your party's attitude toward the CPSU congress which is due to open shortly?

ANDREYEVA: We believe that it would be unadvisable, or at least untimely, to resurrect the CPSU. Essentially, the CPSU has concentrated an agglomerate of diametrically opposed viewpoints, thereby corrupting itself as a party reflecting the interests of the working class. It was a symbiosis of Bolsheviks and fervent anti-communists.

Different parties with diametrically opposed platforms have survived on the ruins of the CPSU, therefore it would be illogical to reunite them under the same roof.

Furthermore, the acts of iconoclasm perpetrated by Gorbachev, Yakovlev, Shevardnadze, and Yeltsin, per se, did nothing to glean the essence of the negative processes affecting the CPSU. The positions of the other Politbureau members, their unscrupulousness and conciliatory attitudes engendered opportunism. You cannot find a single member of the Politbureau, or an ex-holder of the Party high office who is involved in political activities, upholding the Communist ideas and ideals. This is one of the reasons why the issue of the CPSU congress should be revoked. There are also some other reasons. For example, some of the Party apparatchiks have plunged into business, competing with our nowadays businessmen.

We also have to accept it that the CPSU was not disbanded. In fact, it dissolved itself following Yeltsin's and Gorbachev's unconstitutional behavior in August 1991, when no one could offer them any serious resistance. In the meantime, we shouldn't forget that our deputies' corps consists predominantly of CPSU members who were taking active part in adopting unconstitutional and unpopular acts.

This is why we are not sending any of our delegates to the July congress, nor do we recognize the meeting which will be staged under the name of the Party's 29th Congress. I would also like to note that this Congress' organizing committee employes a number of persons who have never been CPSU members, which is absurd. Q: At the same time, you are going to take part in another congress, scheduled for September, aren't you? A: Yes, we are. We will attend the congress in September. Our party will be represented by the secretaries of its Central Committee. The purpose of our presence at that congress, however, will have nothing to do with the insurrection of the CPSU, but we will go there to state our position and say what needs to be done. There are several organizing committees, two of them being principal. As regards the organizing committee, chaired by Skvortsov, which is involved with the preparations for the congress in July, this committee has no legal grounds whatsoever for convening the congress. Q: You don't have any doubts as regards the authority of the second organizing committee, do you? A: For one thing, it includes several Politbureau members who have the legal right to convene a congress. Q: Who are they? A: I don't know their names. Q: In what capacity will your party's secretaries of the Central Committee attend the congress in September? As delegates or as observers? A: We will define their status later. Q: What is your attitude toward the proceedings conducted by the Constitutional Court?" A: Although we do object to the resurrection of the CPSU, we equally disapprove of the continuing persecutions of the Communist idea. It has become subject to numerous attacks by anti-communists and those who have taken political power. This explains our presence at the Constitutional Court, while our representatives there bring charges against our government's current policy, its leaders resorting to semi-fascist methods and stratagems.

Everyone knows that there was no trial even of the German National Socialist Party which brought fascism to power in Germany. They only tried the Nazi leaders. Therefore, the organization of trial of the CPSU is an unlawful act which seriously affects the rights of a considerable share of our society - nearly 15 million members of the CPSU.

I believe that there ought to be a trial of the Party's renegade heads and anti-communists. Number one on the list should be Gorbachev, then Yeltsin, chief ideologist Yakovlev, Shevardnadze, today's fervent anti-communist Kravchuk, Shushkevich, and their kin.

Q: Which communist parties and movements are you prepared to side with? A: At present, there are only two parties standing on the Marxist-Leninist platform - the Russian Communist Workers' Party and our RCPB. This is why we maintain close cooperation with the RCWP. Admittedly, we did have some difficulties with some of the RCWP leaders in Moscow and Leningrad who do not want to regard us as their equals. This prevents us from joining our efforts and weakens us. But I regard their behavior as a personal stance of Moscow's and Leningrad's leaders. Their organizations count dozens of people who were associated with the party highest echelons. Usually their position "fluctuates". They always have reserve variants for retreat, which we do without. They fear us in that sense. Besides, some of them are aspiring for seats in the coalition government which will soon come to replace the Yeltsin government which has fully discredited itself. Q: Would you also participate in that government? A: We don't find it possible for us to participate in any coalition government with those who have destroyed our country. Q: When do you envisage the government crisis and the change of Cabinet? A: It's not easy to prophetize or predict inequivocably that all this will occur, say, in August. Social tension is building, while the current political course cannot effect any tangible improvements in people's lives. It's apparent to everyone who is still capable of clear thinking. Yeltsin's promises of future improvement are all lies. We are in for famine. The West won't help us. I think that the situation will be come especially critical in the fall. August-September will be fraught with great social calamities. Q: What will the government do in that situation, do you think? A: I think that the Yeltsin government will resort to semi-fascist-type austerity control measures. They have already made the first step in that direction. They have long been crying about the need to dissolve the Supreme Council and other councils which, they claim, prevent them from going ahead with their reform. They will resort to pressure.

In the meantime, we also observe mounting potential energy of genocide against the people regardless of their

nationality or residence. Essentially, a shadow government is taking shape composed of our mafia-colored bourgeoisie. They will share the spheres of influence between themselves. It make no difference to them who will be their puppets ready to implement any of their social orders. Q: Do I understand you correctly that you regard Yeltsin and the incumbent government as puppets? A: I believe that the Gorbachev government and his affiliated "enterprises", such as Yeltsin and his kin, are realizing a plan of the International Monetary Fund devised for underdeveloped countries.

There is no doubt that Gorbachev, Yeltsin, and their followers have turned into the puppets manipulated by the West and international imperialism. They don't make any decisions on their own, for they receive all recommendations from the West and closely adhere to them.

The situation is becoming socially explosive. At present, they are trying to give the mounting popular discontent a nationalist coloring. We qualify this as an attempt to camouflage the occurring social processes. This will ineluctably further aggravate the relations among the sovereign states. The incumbent government leaders appear to be interested in the civil war and in conflicts at their borderland territories, although they will never admit this. They need all this in order to re-address the blame onto the persons of other nationalities. Our objective is to interdict this and curb the civil war. To succeed, we need to change the political course. Q: How are you planning to do it? A: In my opinion, the only way for us to evade a free-for-all civil war, and bloodbath which the presidents of the independent states are imposing on us is to stage a general political strike with the demand to this government to resign and change the political course. Q: Aren't you afraid of a serious economic backlash as a result of this strike? A: I was vigorously opposing this as long some remnants of socialist economy, still, were preserved because we believed that strikes could only further crumble the economy. As of present, when the country's economic and political power in concentrated in the hands of those who are conducting an anti-popular policy, we not only support the strike movement, but also take part in it.

We have to struggle against inhuman humiliation to which our leaders are subjecting us.

Economic Issues

Sobchak Calls For Action on Land Ownership

PM2807110792 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 28 Jul 92 p 1

[Transcript of St. Petersburg Mayor A. Sobchak's statement at news conference following establishment of St. Petersburg and Leningrad Oblast Civic Union, under "Quotations" rubric: "Sobchak Advises Yeltsin: 'Take the Blame'"—first paragraph is introduction]

[Text] (From the stenographic record of the news conference following the stablishment of the St. Petersburg and Leningrad Oblast Civic Union 25 July 1992. A. Sobchak attended the constituent conference of the Civic Union. He stressed at this juncture that he is not taking part in it as mayor, but as a member of the leadership of the Movement for Democratic Reforms).

"I would like to say the following about the referendum on land and the private ownership of land... The adoption of a Law on Private Land Ownership has been blocked for the umpteenth year now, impeding the implementation of real agrarian reform. Evidently, the purpose of this referendum is to win the people's support in order then to try once again to get the decision on private ownership of land through a Congress—after all, our legislation does not automatically enshrine the results of a referendum in law. Therefore we will once again not receive any concrete result apart from Boris Nikolayevich once again being able to say that the parliament, if you excuse the expression, thinks so-and-so, while the people think something quite different.

"There is another path. I have said this frankly and I told Boris Nikolayevich this. He has extraordinary powers—he can change the law. Parliament has left on vacation. Parliament can paralyze a government decision for seven days. These deputies cannot be assembled from vacation. Therefore: Adopt this decision, take the blame, adopt the decision."

Sale of Hard Currency to Citizens Permitted

OW2707134692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1300 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] IF [INTERFAX] learned that the Russian Central Bank had instructed authorized banks by telegram to sell any amount of foreign currency to private citizens for rubles, and they are not required to present a foreign-travel passport or exit visa.

The Central Bank sets a quota for the export of foreign exchange by a physical persons/resident of the Russian Federation who goes abroad on a private visit or settles permanently in a foreign country at 500 US dollars per person, in case the individual does not present an authorization from the bank to take out a bigger amount. One needs an authorization to take out a bigger amount.

To buy more than 500 US dollars, an individual needs a passport or another identification document. An authorized bank records the name of the buyer and other document data in a special log, to be kept for at least two years.

A permission to take out hard currency is given at the request of the buyer in case the foreign currency was withdrawn from the hard currency account or bought for rubles at this bank.

An authorized bank is obligated to sell foreign currency to a foreign national and buy it. In case these rules are violated, they are liable under current legislation.

Observers say that this decision is a step toward an internally convertible ruble.

Central Bank Changes Juridical Address

LD2707195192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1718 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Text] Moscow July 27 TASS—Arnold Voyiukov, first deputy chairman of the Russian Central Bank, signed today an order changing the juridical address of the main bank of Russia. In connection with moving of its central administrative apparatus to the office premises in the Neglinnaya Street, from now on, the juridical address of the Central Bank of the Russian Federation should be indicated as follows: 103016 Moscow, 12, Neglinnaya Str.

Impact of Gerashchenko's Return Viewed

PM2807091692 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 25 Jul 92 p 2

[V. Prokhvatilov report: "Look Who's Back: Gerashchenko Has Taken Over at the Bank Again"]

[Text] The return of Viktor Gerashchenko to the financial "big league" marks the end of the "Sturm und Drang" period in the development of economic reform in Russia. He was chairman of the USSR Gosbank [State Bank] and showed himself to be a highly professional and faithful "servant" to the ruling elite. It seemed that the outbreak of the August coup had put an end to his professional career. Soviet finances fell into the hands of his rival, Central Bank of Russia Chairman G. Matyukhin. History, it seems, has still to assess the merits of this former Soviet intelligence agent in Uruguay who established the Central Bank of Russia as a sabotage and subversion operation against the government of Valentin Pavlov, who today is languishing in a dungeon.

Pavlov's attempts to stabilize finances were, as the poet said, "fatally underhand," and the banker V. Gerashchenko connived at this by performing his duty, but not without inner protest. Matyukhin, however, with the active complicity of the Russian parliament, placed an inflationary bomb of such force under Pavlov and Gerashchenko that when it exploded and the smoke cleared, it became evident that the Soviet Union itself had been buried beneath the wreckage of the Soviet economy.

Having brought down the Union government, the Central Bank of Russia, again egged on by parliament, began to wage war against the Russian Federation Government.

Following his appointment as acting chairman of the Central Bank of the Russian Federation, V. Gerashchenko has made a number of harshly sobering statements. These chime with the new "profounder" line being taken by the Gaydar government; they reflect the fact that power is divided between the old and new Kremlin bosses and that a corresponding compromise exists in economic policy. Gerashchenko has said that convertibility of the ruble cannot be achieved unless the economy is balanced. The failure of the stabilization policy may thus be considered officially acknowledged. Gerashchenko also touched on some of the Central Bank's foreign currency interventions on the stock exchange, basically revealing an "open secret." As is well known, the Russian Government and the Central Bank used to arrange such interventions for "significant" dates, for example just before joining the IMF, in order to boost the ruble exchange rate and snatch the laurels of saviors of the Russian economy. Gerashchenko said that practically all the foreign currency allocated to the Central Bank was spent on this. Half a billion dollars were sold off in all.

Moreover, V. Gerashchenko has made some remarks on the prospects for the ruble zone in the CIS countries. In his opinion, the system of interrepublic transactions should not be turned into a system of valves and barriers. Gerashchenko believes that the ruble could be used as an accounting unit in clearing transactions following the experience of CEMA member-countries.

If these remarks by Gerashchenko are implemented, this will signal the end of the concept of an accelerated "great leap forward" to capitalism following the IMF's prescriptions.

Bank Stance on Confiscated Money Unclear

PM2807100792 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Jul 92 Morning Edition p 1

[AEN report: "Commercial Banks Await Billions. Possibly to No Avail"]

[Text] The Central Bank of Russia has refused to confirm or deny the report that Viktor Gerashchenko, the Central Bank's acting chairman, is allegedly preparing an ordinance to return to commercial banks the 17 billion rubles paid out in respect of counterfeit Chechen advice notes and then confiscated.

The bank's advisers said that they have been prohibited from issuing any information on this matter for 10 days.

Shilin Comments on Foreign Debt Payments

LD2707152892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1419 GMT 27 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Pavel Ryabov]

[Text] Moscow July 27 TASS—"Russia hopes other sovereign states will maintain their obligations to pay

their share of the foreign debt of the former Soviet Union. What is more, the deferral granted to Russia at the Munich meeting of the G-7 is based exactly on such terms," Viktor Shilin, deputy minister of foreign economic relations of Russia, told ITAR-TASS.

Shilin reminded that in October 1991 a number of republics of the former Soviet Union signed a memorandum on joint liability of payment of the ex-Soviet debt. According to this document, the republics accept their share of the debt and undertake its payment. Created in December last year, the inter-state council servicing the ex-Soviet foreign debt (comprising representatives of Armenia, Byelarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Russia) determines the size of the debt of each republic and controls the implementation of all agreements in this field.

"In the case that any ex-Soviet republic refuses to pay its share of the debt, Russia may take on this sum of the debt only on 'zero option' terms", the deputy minister stressed. That means that a state refusing to pay its share of liabilities of the total foreign debt would not be able to lay claims to its assets—the previously allocated hard currency of the former Soviet Union.

At present such an agreement is in force between Russia and Byelarus.

Economic Council Adviser on Fuel Problems

OW2707065092 Moscow Central Television First Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1845 GMT 23 Jul 92

[Interview with Vasiliy Andreyevich Fedorchenko, adviser on the fuel and energy complex at the Russian Supreme Soviet Presidium; by Sergey Giryachev; place not given; from the "Utro" program—live]

[Text] Vasiliy Andreyevich Fedorchenko is the guest of the Utro program. Good morning and welcome. Let me introduce you first: Russian People's Deputy, a member of the Supreme Economic Council, and an adviser on the fuel and energy complex at the Russian Supreme Soviet Presidium. There are some more titles, but I will not recount them.

The proverb says: Prepare your cart in winter and your sled in summer. Tell me please, is the situation so serious that cold will threaten us again this winter? You probably know more about fuel than anyone else.

[Fedorchenko] Whatever the case might be, I do not know more than anyone else. There are special organs controlling the state of affairs of supply and preparation of fuel for the upcoming winter. Measures for winter preparations have been taken by the Ministry of Fuel and Energy. But the situation is really very complex.

[Goryachev] The facts we have just presented are very serious [referring to previous news item on decline in coal and petroleum production]; it is probably not a good subject for a morning program, but it is an important one.

[Fedorchenko] I would even say that what we are now going through is not merely a crisis in the fuel and energy complex, but rather a complete deterioration. The lack of action about the fuel and energy complex in the last few years accounts for the decreasing rates of production and the lowered fuel and energy production. You know that our main export potential is still fuel...

[Goryachev, interrupts] It used to be petroleum up until now.

[Fedorchenko] Yes, and petroleum too. In recent years, we have been constantly lowering petroleum exports. We used to export more than 100 million tonnes, but today it is 40 million tonnes. The most frightening thing is that petroleum production decreases by more that 50 million tonnes every year. Production planned for this year is more that 50 million tonnes. I think that it is going to be even worse that we expect.

[Goryachev] How will it influence us, the people who live in this country, who want to stay warm?

[Fedorchenko] I think that we should not worry about the upcoming winter. There is no need to further aggravate the situation by picturing it as if everything was entirely bad. I think that we are still a world power in the sphere of developing and producing fuel and energy resources. But the tendencies that are constantly worsening today lead to the total collapse of this complex and the stagnation of this industry. Naturally, what will follow is the total stoppage of our economy.

[Goryachev] Many people have suggested raising the price of fuel so as to force the consumers to conserve it. It will become more valuable. What do you think of this argument? Should energy prices be raised? There is a lot of talk about it, but still no decision.

[Fedorchenko] You know, actually I hear the reverse from television announcers and newspapers. Mass media in general tries to present the liberalization of prices in the fuel and energy complex as if someone just decided to do it so as to solve the problems of one industry while totally demolishing the rest of the economy. However, things are very different. We are approaching a stage where a basic branch of industry, which is our one treasure, is being destroyed. We will eventually reach a time when not only will we be incapable of providing our own economy and citizens with energy and heat, but we will have nothing to export.

[Goryachev] So, are you for the price hike, or against?

[Fedorchenko] You can not put the question like this. I support an increase in prices, but the prices must not be raised in the way our press presents it. This is a separate subject, and I do not think that it can be included in...

[Goryachev, interrupts] It will not be included. But as far as I know, the government has developed some kind of strategic concept, and it will be discussed soon.

[Fedorchenko] Yes, a large group of scientists has prepared a concept of energy policy for the immediate and long-term perspective. It outlines primary, transitory, and long-term measures allowing the fuel and energy complex to emerge out of the crisis.

[Goryachev] We always had lots of plans. We can only hope that these measures will be realized and will not stay on paper only.

[Fedorchenko] I agree. Regrettably, the actions of our government are so inconsistent that one can only deplore them.

[Goryachev] Well, the Russian Government is criticized in the Utro program...

[Fedorchenko, interrupts] I did not want to.

[Goryachev] ...by Vasiliy Andreyevich Fedorchenko, Russian People's Deputy. Thank you for coming and for raising this subject and sounding the alarm.

Grain Purchases '5 Times Lower' Than 1991

OW2707192892 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1824 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Over the last few days the flow of grain to the state elevators has sharply increased and the gross volume of grain purchased for the state funds of Russia has grown from 400 thousand to 1 million tons, the first deputy chairman of the Committee on Bread Products Aleksandr Kudelya declared at a press conference on Monday. Nevertheless the purchases of grain are 5 times lower than in the previous year.

According to Kudelya, the peasants have begun to actively hand in the grain after the Russian President during his tour to Krasnodarsk province last week declared that the present basic purchasing prices for grain will not be increased.

The deputy chairman of the Committee on Bread Products added that "an understanding was reached" in respect to the present prices for grain with the majority of the farms' heads as the state proposes a price (8-10 rubles per kilogram of grain) almost equal to the stock exchange price and to the prices of the world market.

Kudelya pointed out that the state will not force the peasants to hand in the grain, but quite the opposite, it intends to promote formation of the grain market which will formulate real prices for this product.

Under the present level of purchasing prices for grain the price of one kilogram of bread in the shops will be increased to 28 rubles and of meat - to 250 rubles.

According to the governmental plans, Russia will be able to buy 29 million tons of grain at the domestic market.

Government Increases Meat, Milk Subsidies

OW2707192492 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1824 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Russian Government has more than doubled subsidies introduced on May 1st for producers of meat, milk and eggs. Now peasants can receive a further 18.3 rubles per head for every kilogram of meat yielded to the government-virtually double the price (average wholesale price of meat is 22 rubles). The subsidy on a litre of milk is 3.4 rubles (wholesale price 5-6 rubles), and for ten eggs the subsidy is 2.1 rubles (wholesale 15 rubles).

Before the introduction of subsidies, live-stock producers worked virtually at a loss, whereas the current minimum profitability on payment for production of meat, milk and eggs will be a guaranteed 10-25%.

The government is setting aside 105 bn. [billion] rubles for live-stock production in the second half of the year.

Consumer Price Index Hits 982 Percent

PM2707155592 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 25 Jul 92 First Edition p 1

[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA-ITAR-TASS report under the "News" rubric: "Consumer Price Index"]

[Text] The consumer price index as a whole throughout Russia for the first half of 1992 was 982 percent compared to December 1991. For May and June the consumer price index was 129 percent, including May at 112 percent and June at 115 percent.

The consumer price index is calculated on the basis of statistical data obtained as a result of observing the change in retail prices in state, cooperative, and private trade, and also in the services sector, on the basis of the actually prevailing structure of consumption during the past year in Russia of a recorded selection of basic consumer goods and services (excluding nonstaple goods and services).

Long Work Stoppages Due to Supply Shortages

LD2407134992 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2114 GMT 23 Jul 92

[Text] Moscow, 24 Jul—Losses of working time at Russian enterprises in the first half of 1992 amounted to over 9 million man-days, the Russian Federation's Goskomstat has reported. Because of interruptions to supplies of materials and energy resources, long stoppages (as a rule lasting more than one shift) took place at 850 industrial enterprises. In the opinion of Goskomstat, over two-thirds of the work stoppages are connected with

failures to supply raw materials and products in accordance with contracts concluded between enterprises, and one-fourth of the stoppages are connected with suppliers' refusal to conclude contracts to supply products.

'Slow Progress' in Retail Privatization Cited

LD2407134192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2145 GMT 24 Jul 92

[Text] Moscow, 24 Jul (TASS)—In Russia, the formation of market relations in retail trade and consumer services is making slow progress. According to data from the Russian state statistics committee which has summed up the results of the first half year, by 1 July 6,500 retail trade enterprises, 2,100 catering establishments, and 3,900 consumer service outlets had been privatized. This corresponds to 4.0 percent, 1.5 percent, and 3.0 percent, respectively, of the total number of enterprises to be privatized.

High Prices Blamed for Production Decline

PM2307134992 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 23 Jul 92 First Edition p 3

[AEN report: "Prices and Production"]

[Text] The Congress of Russian Business Circles Center for Socioeconomic and Political Research has reported that in June the production of meat, milk, shoes, and textiles declined 30 percent compared with the previous month and trade turnover declined 40 percent. Purchases of livestock and poultry were 70 percent of the May level and egg purchases 73 percent.

In the opinion of experts, the reduction has been caused mainly by the extraordinarily high prices as a result of which output is not being sold in full and its producers are cutting back on production. At the same time there will evidently be no slump in production because of the breakdown of economic ties, since it has already reached the lowest possible level.

Conversion and Space Issues

Plans To Convert SS-25's to Civilian Uses

LD2507202692 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0600 GMT 24 Jul 92

[Excerpts] Engineers of the Heat-Engineering Institute have found a useful application for military intercontinental missiles. Deputy chief constructor Lev Solomonev talks about it.

[Begin recording] [Solomonev] We undertook a trial which ended, we think, successfully, to implement an effective, in our view, conversion project connected with the utilization of SS-25 missiles that were in army operation as launch vehicles for civilian payloads into space. In a word, it is a modern, intercontinental ballistic missile which is mobile based. As a civilian launch vehicle it uses an effective rocket booster that is supplemented by a specially constructed further, fourth rocket booster that allows approximately up to half a tonne of satellite to be taken into space.

[Correspondent Belov] What kind of satellites can be taken into orbit with the help of this rocket?

[Solomonev] It seems to us today that there are no limitations on the types of payloads that can be taken into space since this rocket is in no way different from traditional launch vehicles for the available weight for equipment, instruments—for a satellite. If I were to talk about the types of satellite which it could take into space then they are communications satellites; technical satellites for manufacturing various materials and medical preparations in space; and satellites with various scientific equipment, equipment for monitoring the earth's surface, and for a whole number of other kinds of research. There are many others. [passage omitted]

It is true that we successfully destroyed 72 missiles, one after the other, in front of American inspectors, to applause. But that is it; apart from applause this was of no use to anyone. It damaged the enviroment and mankind gained nothing from it. We lost a huge amount of money invested in this equipment and that is it. So if it were possible to carry out our project, and not just ours, but also convert other similiar rockets with the aim of studying space, then the money earlier invested in them can be returned to the people, not only to our own. The British have missiles, so do the Americans, the French, and the Chinese. They could serve mankind a second time, return to man what he at one time—10, 15 years ago—put into these technical products born of confrontation between each other. [end recording]

Nuclear Reactors Closed for Conversion

LD2507164892 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0600 GMT 24 Jul 92

[Text] By a decision of the Collegium of the State Committee for Safety in Industry and Atomic Power Industry, two Russian reactors for the production of plutonium for nuclear weapons have been closed down in Krasnoyarsk and in Tomsk. Thus only three will remain in Russia. The conversion program envisages the building in Krasnoyarsk-26 of a factory to produce polycrystal silicon and materials for semiconductor technology. In two or three years time 200 tonnes will be produced. Apart from that it is proposed to organize at the combine the production of particularly pure materials—gallium arsenide, germanium, and tellurium.

Conversion of Defense Industries Assessed

LD2507111592

[Editorial Report] Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian at 1425 GMT on 24 July carries a 15-minute documentary on the Zashchita Center for Emergency Medical

Aid, part of the closed Institute of Biophysics of the Ministry of Health. The program examines some of the items it has developed and describes the new role it is creating for itself as the conversion of the defense industries gathers pace.

"The veil of secrecy is gradually being lifted." The Institute of Biophysics carried out work for the Ministry of Medium Machine Building and the Ministry of General Machine Building. Behind these innocuous labels were, respectively, the nuclear industry and space rocket technology in the former USSR, the voice-over said.

[Video shows interior and exterior shots of the Zashchita center] A.N. Nemtsev, first deputy director of the center, which is located in Moscow's Zhivopisnaya Street, said in an interview that following the center's creation, part of the institute's work has been declassified and is being used in the center's practical activities. The chief aim is to provide emergency medical and public health aid in various types of emergencies—radiation accidents and chemical accidents on sites managed by the Chief Directorate for Medical, Biological, and Extreme-Condition Problems, as well as other man-made and natural disasters. Recently the center sent out a mobile hospital to Vladikavkaz and Tiraspol to help the injured.

V.V. Polyakov, doctor and cosmonaut, shown standing in front of a man being fitted with straps, commented that the device being demonstrated concentrates the blood in the lower part of the body to counteract the effects of weightlessness, which causes the blood to collect in the upper part of the body.

A.S. Yarov, captioned as the laboratory head, showed an item of comfortable space-wear consisting of an inner lining of cotton and synthetic knitted material on the outside that does not cause dust that could block filters. A warm but lightweight knitted space-suit made of fibers described as hygienic was also shown: again cotton-lined, with an outside layer of polyester fiber, and a thin layer of dust-free wool sandwiched in between.

The voice-over said that at the moment "there is no question" of these items being put into industrial production as many former suppliers now find themselves in different countries, such as Lithuania and the Ukraine, and "certainly aren't consumed by a desire to cooperate for nominal payment, as was the case before." The small Moscow enterprise Agava manufactures space-clothes and suits for the emergency medical teams "literally by the piece." Other protective wear developed at the institute includes disposable and washable suits for use at atomic power stations. There are protective suits for use at special chemical plants where rocket fuel is manufactured—the institute has developed material that repels hot splashes. Anti-gravity-force suits for pilots are also made here. [video shows seamstresses at work at the Agava factory. Various types of protective suits are shown on display]

L.R. Iseyev, doctor of medical sciences, said that at a "unique" aerospace medicine and high-altitude physiology complex, which has been functioning for around 15 years, there are two chambers. One can rarefy the air to around 10 to the power of minus 3, which is equivalent to around 50 km above sea level. In the vertical chamber, which is designed for testing high-altitude equipment, a deep vacuum of 10 to the power of minus six can be created—the equivalent of an altitude of around 250 km. This chamber has proved very effective for treating various diseases—bronchial asthma, allergic dermatitis, and certain mental disorders. In future, the chamber will be used for public health purposes, he says.

The voice-over said an ordinary pressure chamber could be used for medical purposes, but "in the absence of orders and financing, people manage as best they can." The Energiya scientific-production association in the Moscow region is forced to manufacture fitted kitchens. The Samara Progress rocket factory makes automatic sausage machines. "Conversion is undoubtedly needed—but it is still an open question whether it has gone in the right direction." The Emergency Medical Aid Center has been using the expertise of the Institute of Biophysics to set up rapid reaction teams and equip them with the necessary equipment. At the time of the Chernobyl disaster, a special government decision gave the go-ahead for a main coordinating center in Moscow and regional branches initially throughout the Soviet Union, now Russia. Incoming information is monitored and processed, and emergency aid teams are on constant alert. The Zashita center is "far behind" similar Western organizations, but the intellectual and industrial potential of defense science and technology should allow it to catch up, the commentary concluded. [video: final shots show rescue teams at work in various disaster areas]

Defense Industrialists Meet With Gaydar

LD2407180892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1659 GMT 24 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Roman Zadunaiskiy]

[Text] Moscow July 24 TASS—The leaders of the Russian League of Defence Enterprises have called for working out a national industrial policy as the basis on which to convert defence industries to peaceful uses and ensure scientific and technological support for the country's defence capability.

Members of the league presidium today met with acting prime minister of the Russian Government Yegor Gaydar to express their support for the government's economic reform policy and express concern of the league members about the state of affairs in the defence industry.

They pointed to the continuing slump in production and the growing threat to the country's scientific and technological potential.

The league brings together more than 600 enterprises and organisations of the country.

Space Industry Launches Into Commercial Status

OW2107085592 Moscow Central Television First Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1845 GMT 14 Jul 92

[Video report by A. Popov; from the "Utro" program]

[Text] Now the first report in our program "Space and Conversion." Andrey Popov reports. [video shows exterior of design bureau building; display of various space equipment; and models of aircraft and rockets]

[Begin video recording] [Popov] Closed off until recently, the Lavochkin NPO [Scientific Production Association] is now becoming more open and ready to cooperate. It was here that the Arkos—Argonavty Kosmosa [the Argonauts of Space]—joint stock company was formed which—with the support of the Russian Space Agency, the leadership of the Ministry of Defense Space Units, the Main Space Administration, and other organizations—solved the urgent issues of our country's cosmonautics. For many of us, the name Semen Alekseyevich Lavochkin is linked to the creation of the spectacular aircraft of World War II. In recent years the NPO that bears his name has created jet aircraft as well as surface to air and cruise missiles. But that is history. Now space apparatus is being produced within these walls. I am talking with Anatoliy Mikhaylovich Baklonov, the general director. [video cuts to show Popov interviewing Baklonov]

[Popov] Anatoliy Mikhaylovich, I know those who are involved with space in our country are experiencing great difficulties. How does your production association find its way out of this situation?

[Baklonov] The way it is presented by the mass media, conversion has affected us very little. Apparently this can be explained by the fact that the products we manufacture are required by the state, whatever the condition. Nevertheless, the general situation in the country forces us to seek commercial work, to seek ways and contacts with foreign partners. We sense there is great interest in what we have done, and are doing now, from practically every country involved with space.

[Popov] What about the creation of joint stock companies?

[Baklonov] We already have four such companies in our country, one of which is the subject of our discussion today—Arkos. In my view, the creation of such companies gives confidence to the people in carrying out very complicated and protracted projects, and the results of this work and of the efforts people put into them will later help their self assertion as specialists, and will help to solve their purely day to day problems.

[Popov] And so the NPO is cooperating with the joint stock company, and sees a definite benefit in it for itself. Here are those leading specialists and qualified workers who are undertaking to solve unusual problems. [video shows workers, then cuts to show Popov interviewing Vladimir Andreyevich Asyushkin, general director of Arkos]

Vladimir Andreyevich, we are in the Lavochkin NPO, now the Arkos joint stock company. What does it all mean?

[Asyushkin] The Arkos joint stock company is an innovative company created by the leading specialists of the Lavochkin NPO and by organizations such as the Main Space Administration, (Sensuntorg), and the Moscow Investment Institute. The main field of interest of this company is the creation of new projects which will ensure the development of applied branches of cosmonautics. In conditions of limited state budget financing, we have to find non- traditional ways to solve the problems in hand. This is what Arkos does. [video shows work being done on space equipment; a space launch; what appears to be an animated representation of equipment in space; draftsmen at work; and a worker at a desk top computer]

We are working along several directions, one of the important and necessary directions being the necessity to modernize our country's launch vehicle park. The Arkos joint stock company, jointly with the Lavochkin Scientific Production Association and other leading enterprises in the field, has developed a project which stands out for its' low-cost and effectiveness in solving this problem. From the results of the project we can draw the conclusion that there is a way of solving the modernization of our country's missiles, which sharply increases the mass payloads [massovykh vvodimykh poleznykh nagruzok], in comparison with the existing masses on a great variety of orbits. [video shows a worker at a computer; Baklonov with a group of people; an animated representation of a vehicle in space; an exhibit room; followed by a song over stills of cosmonauts, space views of earth, and Gagarin's triumphant welcome] [end video recording]

Today, in these difficult economic times, this is very important. To preserve the specialists, to solve the vital problems in the assimilation of space using shareholders' money, and to use the opportunities of conversion, is exactly what the Arkos company is avowed to do.

Designer Holds News Conference on Baykonur

LD2607032892 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1740 GMT 25 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Rena Kuznetsova]

[Text] Baykonur Cosmodrome, 25 Jul—Yuriy Semenov, general designer of the Energiya scientific-production association, told journalists today that the whole complex—both the booster rocket and the "Soyuz TM-15"

spaceship—are completely ready for the takeoff of an international Russo-French crew on 27 July. He revealed this at the interstate commission's first news conference, which was held at the Baykonur Cosmodrome. Semenov noted that "by continuing international spaceflights, a decision that was made when the Soviet Union still existed, Russia is upholding the international prestige of Russia, Kazakhstan, and other CIS states".

At the same time, Kazakh journalists asked questions which clearly reflected some sour grapes: The Kazakh side has not been sufficiently represented in this or that program or undertaking. Yuriy Semenov had this to say in reply: "I personally spoke with Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev. We talked about having national cadres at Baykonur. While they are still not ready, up to 2,000 people have to be sent here. I would be glad to ask Kazakhstan to carry out these functions. We spend gigantic sums of money to support unique structures; otherwise they will fall into disrepair. We are here for a long time, forever, and we should act together to multiply our common wealth", the general designer stressed.

Colonel General Vladimir Ivanov, chairman of the interstate commission on flight tests, noted that a constructive decision on the procedure for using the Baykonur launch site was being elaborated on the basis of bilateral cooperation between Russia and Kazakhstan. He was confident that the infrastructure, which has been jointly developed over the years, will not be disrupted. The first French cosmonaut, Jean-Loup Chretien, who was present at the news conference, said: "If we had failed to maintain such close and fruitful cooperation in space with Russia, in 10 years we would have had to explained to our descendants why we failed to do so."

Soyuz Launched

LD2707120592 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1039 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Text] Flight Control Center, 27 Jul (ITAR-TASS)—The spaceship Soyuz TM-15, with a crew which includes Anatoliy Solovyev, Sergey Avdeyev, and Michel Tognini, has been launched into an orbit with the following parameters:

—Maximum distance from the earth's surface: 233 kms
—Minimum distance from the earth's surface: 200 kms,
—Period of revolution: 88.6 minutes
—Inclination: 51.6 degrees

In accordance with the flight program, the cosmonauts have carried out regular operations to check out the airtightness of the ship's compartments and have tested the approach and docking radio-technical systems. The first double-thrust maneuver for far approach to the scientific research complex Mir is planned for the second half of the day.

The flight of the Russian-French crew is continuing.

Scientists Design Satellite Nuclear Power Plant

LD1807162492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1536 GMT 16 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Nikolay Krupenik]

[Text] St. Petersburg July 16 TASS—St. Petersburg researchers have developed and built a nuclear power plant, Topaz-2, for space satellites. However, it will make its debut not in space orbits but overseas—at an exhibition in the American state of New Mexico where the power plant was flown by a special air transport.

The 7 KW power plant has a basic difference from its predecessors: it has no turbines or generators—nuclear energy is converted into electricity in the reactor aboard a spacecraft. The unit weighing one tonne will operate independently for five or seven years.

"Our design office in St. Petersburg have developed and tested on land 20 models of space power plants over 25 years," director of the Chief Design Office Vladimir Nikitin told the ITAR-TASS news agency.

He added with regret: "Our office manufactured nuclear power plants for space missions two years ago. But not a single one was blasted off into space: funds for space programmes were slashed".

Military Issues

Military Official Warns of 'Silent Coup'

LD2707125792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1115 GMT 27 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vadim Byrkin]

[Text] Moscow July 27 TASS—While a bloody putsch which would put troops on the streets is unlikely in Russia, the fragile democracy could be destroyed by a silent coup wrenching power away from radical reformers, a top military official told TASS on Monday [27 July].

"There is no need to deploy troops and armour on the streets, power can change hands with the president remaining in his seat," said Valeriy Ochirov, an Afghan war hero who is second in command of the Russian Army Aviation.

Any attempt to reverse reforms will begin with changes in President Boris Yeltsin's entourage. Pressure on Yeltsin can take different forms, Ochirov said.

The opposition, eager to force Yeltsin to toe its line, will try to win the hearts of disgruntled troops, he warned.

The worsening economic situation, slow military reforms, the "lumpenisation" of the Armed Forces, the uncontrollable sale of weapons and the emergence of many dissatisfied, homeless and impoverished officers pose a real threat for Russia, he said.

"Unless the government shifts from promises to concrete measures regarding the Armed Forces, at least implementing the president's latest decrees, which either do not contain an enforcement mechanism or are sabotaged conscientiously, tomorrow might be too late," Ochirov said.

Kokoshin on Diminishing Military Purchases

OW2407190492 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1628 GMT 24 Jul 92

[Prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin and edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The government of the Russian Federation has placed an order for just 20 tanks this year - as the deputy Defence Minister Andrey Kokoshin has divulged in an exclusive interview with our correspondent Marina Chernukha.

A. Kokoshin is the only civilian in the Ministry's leadership who is helping to formulate Russia's military doctrine, as instructed by the President.

The state budget, he says, allocates "ever diminishing funds" for purchasing military hardware. Some of the items have fallen to only 60-70% of last year's level or even less.

To illustrate A. Kokoshin quotes that in 1988 the USSR produced more than 3,200 tanks of which 2,800 were supplied to its armed forces, and the rest were exported. There is no need for so many tanks now. "But 20 tanks are clearly not enough even for minimal regular replacements", argues A. Kokoshin and adds that "the orders for artillery, armored personnel carriers, and many types of missile-launchers have practically dwindled to zero."

Priorities are being set now for purchasing armaments in keeping with Russia's new military doctrine. The number of items is being limited, unification and standardization are being applied. For some land armaments "we used to have 2.5-3 times more items than the Americans, while being 2-3 times poorer." The cost of operation and training personnel were extremely high. This problem cannot be solved before 3-4 years in favorable conditions, but then the effect and saving in operational costs should be great.

A. Kokoshin thinks that some branches of the defence complex can be quite competitive in the world. That includes air-space industry, quantum electronics, laser technologies, ship-building, and heavy energy engineering.

(The full text of the interview is coming in our weekly issue "Problems and Opinions")

Composition of Russian Navy Given

LD2607171592 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 26 Jul 92

[Report over video by correspondent M. Taki—from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] [Video shows ships and is captioned with breakdown of figures showing composition of the Russian Navy] Virtually the whole of the former USSR Navy has gone over to Russia. The Black Sea Fleet is the exception—its division between Ukraine and Russia has not yet finished. The Russian Navy amounts to around 250 warships and 1,600 airplanes altogether. Around half a million men serve in the Navy. The nuclear forces of the Russian Navy include 60 strategic submarines, which carry more than 2,500 nuclear weapons.

Decree on Military Housing Published

PM2407154792 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Jul 92 p 1

["Decree of the Russian Federation President on Additional Measures To Finance Construction and Purchase of Housing for Servicemen" signed by Russian Federation President B. Yeltsin and dated the Kremlin, Moscow, 21 July 1992]

[Text] With a view to improving the provision of housing for officers, ensigns, warrant officers, and extended-service servicemen I resolve:

1. In the budget for 1992 and the first half of 1993 the Russian Federation Government must provide for appropriations to ensure the commissioning of a total area of 3,397,000 square meters of housing for servicemen and 2,098,000 square meters of housing for persons discharged from military service broken down as follows: at least 60 percent in 1992 and 40 percent in the first half of 1993.

2. The executive organs of state power of republics, krays, oblasts, and autonomous formations and of the cities of Moscow and St. Petersburg must allocate apartment blocks (individual apartments) for sale according to the prescribed procedure to the Russian Federation Ministry of Defense, the Russian Federation Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Russian Federation Ministry of Security, the Russian Federation Ministry of Architecture, Construction, and Housing and Municipal Services (Main Administration of Railroad Troops), the Committee for the Protection of the State Border, the Russian Federation Foreign Intelligence Service, the Federal Agency for Government Communications and Information under the Russian Federation president, and the Russian Federation Main Bodyguard Administration on the basis of their applications in order to provide housing for servicemen who have no apartments or who are in need of improved housing conditions.

3. The Russian Federation ministries and departments indicated in Paragraph 2 of the present decree must

provide free financial assistance at the place of service amounting to 75 percent of the cost of cooperative housing or of the bank loan taken out for the construction of an individual house along with the interest on the loan to servicemen with 10 or more years of impeccable continuous military service in calendar terms who have joined housing construction (housing) cooperatives or who are building individual houses, including servicemen who under existing legislation are granted the right to join such cooperatives or build individual houses elsewhere than at their place of service. It is laid down that 25 percent of the aforementioned amount of free financial assistance is to come from the nonbudget funds of Russian Federation ministries and departments, and also from savings of the budget resources against the estimated cost of maintaining them.

The remaining 25 percent of the cost of cooperative housing or of the bank loan for the construction of an individual house along with the interest on the loan is to be met from servicemen's money in rubles or foreign currency.

4. The Russian Federation Ministry of Defense, the Russian Federation Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Russian Federation Ministry of Security, the Russian Federation Ministry of Architecture, Construction, and Housing and Municipal Services (Main Administration of Railroad Troops), the Committee for the Protection of the State Border, the Russian Federation Foreign Intelligence Service, the Federal Agency for Government Communications and Information under the Russian Federation president, and the Russian Federation Main Bodyguard Administration must determine the procedure for granting free financial aid, including via the use of nonbudget funds, and also servicemen's personal money for the construction or purchase of housing.

5. By agreement with the ministries and departments concerned the Russian Federation Ministry of Defense within one month must prepare and submit via the Russian Federation president's State-Legal Administration a draft decree of the Russian Federation president on the procedure for the sale and utilization of released military property, making provision in the decree for channeling the proceeds from the sale of this property into financing construction, purchasing housing, and resolving other social problems of servicemen and their family members. Participation by organs of military management (apart from economically accountable enterprises and organizations) and also servicemen in the activity of commercial structures is to be prohibited.

6. The Russian Federation Government is to bring normative acts on these questions published earlier into line with the present decree.

7. Paragraph 7 of Decree No. 154 of the Russian Federation President of 19 February 1992 "On Measures To Strengthen Social Protection for Servicemen and Persons Discharged From Military Service" and also Decree No. 198 of the Russian Federation President of 27 February 1992 "On Additional Measures for Social Protection of Air Force Servicemen" are to be deemed no longer in force.

8. The decree enters into force from the moment it is signed.

[Signed] Russian Federation President B. Yeltsin
The Kremlin, Moscow, 21 July 1992

Admiral Chernavin Discusses Future of Navy

LD2707155492 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1010 GMT 27 Jul 92

["Conversation" with Admiral of the Fleet Vladimir Nikolayevich Chernavin, commander in chief of the Navy, by Murmansk Oblast correspondent Galina Smirnova "on the eve of Navy Day"; place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Smirnova] Vladimir Nikolayevich, may I ask you to tell us what our fleet, Russia's fleet, is today?

[Chernavin] Russia's naval fleet today includes all four of our fleets, the Northern, the Pacific, the Black Sea, and the Baltic fleets. It includes the Caspian flotilla that exists today, and the Leningrad naval base. These are the basic structures, so to speak, of the fleet. We plan to keep all four fleets in the future. In the Caspian Sea, however, following certain events we will withdraw from Baku and will transfer the administration of the flotilla to Astrakhan. We are tackling this issue now. And given that we will be handing over some of the ships from the Caspian flotilla to Azerbaijan—about 25 percent of them—we will have our Caspian naval base there.

A difficult situation has emerged with the Black Sea Fleet. You are aware of this, a great deal has been written and said about this on the radio and in other media. I will not dwell on this matter in detail, but will say only that an agreement was reached in Dagomys and signed by the two presidents, Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin and Kravchuk, to the effect that two fleets should be created in the Black Sea on the basis of the Black Sea Fleet—a Ukrainian and a Russian fleet. The Black Sea Fleet will therefore shrink in size, once it has handed over part of its forces to Ukraine, but it will indisputably exist in this important and strategically crucial theater.

The Baltic Fleet will remain the Baltic Fleet, but difficult negotiations are underway, because the secession of the Baltic republics has created difficulties concerning the withdrawal of our troops from there, and concerning the fleet. Our stance in these negotiations is that our bases should remain in, for example, Tallinn—Revel was always the main base of the Baltic Fleet; in Liepaja, Latvia; and perhaps in a few other places too. For the moment, however, these negotiations are proving difficult, and no specific decisions have been reached. Nevertheless, the Baltic Fleet will be preserved.

The Northern and the Pacific Fleets are more fortunate. These are our two mightiest and biggest fleets, which unlike the other fleets have nuclear-powered vessels. They will retain their present structure without any special alterations.

However, there are changes which will undoubtedly concern these fleets as well. The changes will take place in the future, will affect all fleets. The Russian fleet and armed forces will not be as large as those that the Soviet Union maintained. Consequently, the Navy will not be like that of the Soviet Union, but smaller. We will make cutbacks in both manpower and ships.

The ship cutbacks have been in progress for some time, and will continue. They will mainly consist of decommissioning and withdrawing from service old vessels whose combat value has expired. Disposing of them will not harm the Navy's combat-readiness. The opposite will be the case: The Navy will be smaller, leaner, more maneuverable, and more modern.

As far as manpower reductions are concerned, these will amount to about 100,000 by 1995. But again, there will not be sweeping or across-the-board dismissals and redundancies, but a planned release of officers and flag officers, warrant officers, and ensigns who have completed their terms of engagement. The numbers of conscripted men will be cut. Incidentally, conscription is proceeding with great difficulty because some of the former Soviet republics that are now independent states have decided that their young men will serve only within their borders. So one of the changes that we are planning for the near future, and that we are currently involved in, is to change to contractual, professional service in our Navy.

[Smirnova] This even applies to conscripts?

[Chernavin] Of course. It applies especially to conscripts, because....

[Smirnova, interrupting] So this will be a purely voluntary process?

[Chernavin] Yes, because we think that recruitment by the Navy is too hasty. Officers, ensigns, and warrant officers are professionals, while conscripts, who are drafted, are not professionals. So, it concerns conscription in that now we will be taking people for conscript service and on a contractual basis, with these contracts being concluded with conscripts. So for some time, we will still have a mixed complement in the Navy, but the emphasis will switch to service under contract. The more complex duties will be carried out by professionals, while the more simple duties will be carried out by conscripted men.

It will take us several months to draw up definitive documentation on this, on contractual service, so we are currently allowing more conscripts to stay on. As soon as everything is properly sorted out—this will take perhaps a couple of months—the men who are currently signing to stay on will immediately be put onto a contractual engagement.

[Smirnova] Vladimir Nikolayevich, almost everyone thinks that an officer of the Russian Fleet is a man of the loftiest honor, exceptional propriety, and loyalty to his task and to the fatherland. Today, it seems to me, it is very difficult indeed for an officer to maintain all the qualities I have mentioned—or at least, to exercise them. An officer who graduated from the brilliant Krylov Academy and serves in the operational section of the fleet headquarters today gets the same salary as a totally unqualified worker at any ordinary enterprise. Now, it is the defenders of the fatherland we are talking about here.

[Chernavin] Well, in the first place, a social problem does indeed exist. There is no question about it. It would be silly to deny it, because it does exist and the situation is very difficult. Social problems such as these exist, and not only in the armed forces, not only in the fleet, but throughout our country. We do not live in a separate state. We are not hidden behind a brick wall cut off from all the problems that exist in the rest of the country—low pay, high prices, empty shops, a high crime rate, interethnic problems. All this affects us too, undoubtedly, because we are a part of our state, we are a part of our people. Therefore, everything that is happening in our country today, everything that is going on in our country today, both good and bad, undoubtedly exists in our naval fleet, too.

As for the second part of your question, you would have been quite right had you put it to me a while ago, because the pay for officers was indeed low. This matter has already been put right to some degree by a decision of the defense minister, who is exerting great efforts in this regard, as is the Ministry of Defense collegium—of which I am a member—and the president, who keeps up constant contacts and communications with us.

Thanks to the efforts of these administrative bodies and people, this problem is now on quite a different level. Now, following the latest 1.8-fold pay raise for our officers 2 months ago, and the expected increase in allowances for military ranks—about a 7-fold increase of the previous allowance for ranks—this problem has been alleviated.

This does not mean that the problem no longer exists. As you know, prices and inflation are leaping up daily. But a new approach has been taken to this problem, and today one can no longer talk about our officers receiving less than other sectors of the population engaged in unskilled labor. Naval and Air Force officers have benefited in particular from this increase, because in addition to a pay raise, a series of extra provisions were adopted in furtherance of this law, lifting the restrictions on extra payments in the north and on extra payments for submariners and service on nuclear submarines; payments for proficiency ratings have been introduced; payment of extra money or issues of free food rations

worth more than 1,000 rubles have been introduced, and much more besides. [passage omitted]

Just three or four days ago I attended an interesting conference under Russian President Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin. Boris Nikolayevich assembled representatives of all local administrations in Russia, of military chiefs, and of our government, as well as a number of other bodies such as the Supreme Soviet, to discuss one issue: the implementation of the president's decree on social protection of our servicemen.

A very hard line was taken against those local administrations that are not implementing this decree. The president gave some of them a quite unambiguous warning: If during the second half of the year they continue carrying out the decree in the manner in which they did the first half, they will be dismissed from their posts.

The conference was addressed by military men and by representatives of local administrations. They spoke of the difficulties preventing them from implementing the decree properly. This will all be taken into account, the president said in his concluding address. On the spot he instructed the government to draw up measures to remove impediments to the fulfillment of his decree. On the spot, too, he gave instructions to the Defense Ministry to take specific measures to remove these impediments.

He also announced that new decrees had been signed granting extra benefits to our officers. For instance, there is the decree he signed literally a couple of days ago, which aims to solve the problem that I regard as the main and most acute one—the housing problem. Previously, an officer who wanted to build himself a house got a 50-percent subsidy from the Defense Ministry; this subsidy has now been increased to 75 percent and only a quarter of officers will pay, on a lengthy installment system—a credit can be taken out, too—out of their own pocket.

Other measures are also being taken now, and I can tell you that this issue is being regarded quite differently from the way it was just 6 months ago. [passage omitted]

Former 'Illegal Intelligence' Chief Interviewed

PM2407113192 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Jul 92 p 3

[Interview with Lieutenant General Vadim Kirpichenko, former leader of the illegal intelligence service, by Razil Mustafin; date and place of interview not stated: "It Is Hard To Be an Illegal Agent"—first paragraph is introduction]

[Text] From KRASNAYA ZVEZDA file. Vadim Alekseyevich Kirpichenko. Veteran of Great Patriotic War. Began intelligence service in 1952. From 1974 through 1979 he led the "S" directorate—the illegal intelligence service of the former USSR KGB First Main Directorate (foreign intelligence). Then for 12 years he was first deputy chief of the KGB First Main Directorate. Since 1991 he has been leader of the group of consultants under the director of the Russian foreign intelligence service.

[Mustafin] Vadim Alekseyevich, how did you come to enter the intelligence service, what influenced your choice of career?

[Kirpichenko] After graduating in 1952 from the Arabic department of the Institute of Oriental Studies I was asked to work in the intelligence service. Of course, my idea of this profession was very vague. One thing was clear: It was an unusually interesting and in many ways heroic profession.

I graduated from intelligence school and ended up in the Eastern department, which predetermined my further career.

[Mustafin] Any intelligence service is always concealed from outside eyes. It is a well kept secret. But to the unenlightened person illegal intelligence seems something like the needle in the egg hidden in the box on the branch of the oak tree in the fairy tale. What place do the illegal agents occupy in the intelligence system?

[Kirpichenko] Every agent operating "under cover," holding some official post in an institution abroad, may always have a "tail," may always be subject to invisible surveillance. Modern technical means make it possible to do this with no special problems. I do not even mention tailing on foot or in an automobile. An illegal agent can go where he likes. Unless, of course, he behaves stupidly and "blows his cover." That is the main difference and the main advantage of illegal intelligence. And the aims and tasks of illegal agents are the same as in legal intelligence.

[Mustafin] Forgive me for a delicate question: Who is an illegal agent—a fellow countryman or a foreigner recruited by our agents?

[Kirpichenko] Either. But the main nucleus of illegal intelligence consists of our fellow countrymen who have undergone special training and traveled abroad disguised as foreigners. They have a perfect knowledge of foreign languages and a thorough knowledge of the country in which they are to work. Illegal agents also include foreigners who have agreed to work for us for some reason or other.

[Mustafin] How hard is it to become an illegal agent? For instance, as someone who has worked for many years as a translator, it is hard for me to believe that it is possible to know a language so well that you will not give yourself away.

[Kirpichenko] I shall not reveal all the secrets to you, even with regard to such a seemingly innocuous question. Of course, these are people of a special mentality, with a special temperament and special qualities of character. I too did not understand until I became leader

of the illegal intelligence service. A special microenvironment is created in which the future illegal agent is placed. He constantly receives in concentrated form and in large portions everything that he needs. He is constantly obliged to speak in the language of the country, to listen to radio broadcasts, to watch videos. That is something quite different from learning a language, even at a language higher educational establishment.

In addition the illegal intelligence service is a far from mass organization. Secret work is done here, the production of individual filigree items, if you like. We seek out specially and select gifted people. In addition an illegal agent should have a talent for transmogrification. It is not for nothing that we often say among ourselves that when someone has taken up illegal work he should for that alone be given the titled of honored artist or people's artist. But in contrast to artists the illegal agent enters his role for many years, he does not return home to his family every evening after the show. And he trains for five or six years for his specially constructed role.

This is very hard work. We have few people of this kind. But they comprise our golden fund.

[Mustafin] The fate of the intelligence agent. Does the state guarantee his safety, have there been cases where the center has rejected its agents after they have failed?

[Kirpichenko] The method of saving illegal agents is a complex and very secret business. I can say that not one of our agents has been case to the tyranny of fate. All those who have failed and ended up in the hands of the legal system of another state have all been released by various means or exchanged.

[Mustafin] Who finds it easier to recruit agents—our own people or the Western agents?

[Kirpichenko] I think it is harder for ours. The economic and financial difficulties in the country are also reflected on the intelligence service. I want to note that President Yeltsin and the Russian Government understand the need for us to function normally. We have the necessary minimum.

When recruiting we usually choose those who sympathize with us or want to earn money. A large part here is played by the agent's personal qualities, his charm and wit. There are people who are interesting as conversationalists who instill trust in a foreigner.

The ability to pay well is of great importance in how the Western operatives recruit agents.

[Mustafin] I think that you will not deny that our agents and Western agents are in quite different positions. For instance, if one of ours is caught—forgive me—with a women, then it is a seriously compromising situation, while for a Westerner it is trivial.

[Kirpichenko] If someone is caught "with a woman," as you put it, that is still not a reason to betray his motherland and his intelligence service. If a man comes and explains all his sins and the attempts to recruit him, no one will "twist his head off." On the contrary, in that case everything will be forgiven him. People will take with him and consider how to get him out of danger. It is by no means compulsory that he be dismissed from intelligence work although it is true that he may be moved elsewhere.

The question is how people get out of a difficult situation. And that situation could take shape not only because of involvement with women but also, for instance, because of mistakes in operational work and other factors.

[Mustafin] In addition to your department, the General Staff Main Intelligence Directorate engages in foreign intelligence. How do relations form between the two intelligence services—are they rivals prepared to "expose" each other or are they partners and allies?

[Kirpichenko] Of course, there is a certain rivalry in the spy networks. But it only concerns what I would call professional fervor: Who is the first to acquire valuable information. Much here depends on the spies. If they are intelligent, they will try to subtly find out from each other whether they have not somehow caught their "prey." When I was a spy I formed good relations with my counterparts from the Main Intelligence Administration.

As for the present contacts between the Russian Federation Foreign Intelligence Service and the General Staff Main Intelligence Directorate, we have worked out a rhythm of collaboration. We are always ready to come to each other's assistance.

[Mustafin] In the West recently there have been called for the Russian intelligence service to curtail its activity. Yet the West itself is not only not curtailing its activity but, to all appearances is galvanizing it, including on the territory of the CIS and Russia. What can you say about that?

[Kirpichenko] Russia is not building up its intelligence potential. Today we do not have the kind of global approach we had before. We are withdrawing from many countries of secondary interest. But where it is necessary to our state we shall continue our activity.

[Mustafin] As an intelligence agent you have often had to make forecasts of the development of the situation in particular countries and regions. How do you forecast the development of the situation in our country, in Russia, and in the CIS, for the immediate future?

[Kirpichenko] That is the hardest question for me. I shall not conceal the fact that I used to be pleased when some of my serious forecasts were proved correct. Now too we give precise targeted forecasts for many countries. Forecasting the situation on the territory of the former USSR is very complicated because neither the new states nor the society in these states have yet become established.

Political forces are sometimes in a state of Brownian movement. All this is happening under conditions of a very grave economic crisis. Giving a short-term forecast right now is hardly within the power of a top-class professional.

[Mustafin] In brief, you do not envy your American counterparts who are having to cudgel their brains...

[Kirpichenko] I envy them in the sense that 15 years ago they were able to predict what has actually happened to us: Economic difficulties, the eruption of nationalism, and so forth.

If we are speaking of a longer-term forecast, I still believe that in the near future the intoxication of nationalism, the urge toward sovereignization, which have spread over the territory of the former USSR, will recede and we will emerge from that period.

[Mustafin] God grant that your forecast comes to pass.

Program Highlights Corruption in Military

LD2407110992

[Editorial Report] Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian at 1515 GMT on 23 July carries the third program in the "Corruption" series, entitled "Let the Goat into the Kitchen Garden."

The program includes interviews with the following, all of whom are identified by caption:

Major General Aleksandr Gurov, doctor of legal sciences, deputy of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet, who cites businessmen as saying that throughout the CIS countries 27 billion rubles are used for bribes;

Nikolay Antipov, investigator into special cases in the procurator's office of the Russian Federation, who complains that cases involving large-scale corruption by high ranking officials are being closed under pressure from above;

Andrey Goptar, deputy chairman of the Independent Trade Union of Servicemen, who complains of continuing commercial corruption by generals;

Aleksandr Mikhaylov, chief of the press service of a directorate of the Ministry of Security for Moscow and the oblast, who says that the ministry uncovered the theft of 57 tonnes of cobalt at a state reserve base at Podolsk;

Rudolf Kargamanov, leader and founder of the Independent Antibureaucratic Party, who says that he gave bribes to avoid going to jail;

Anatoliy Grinenko, senior consultant of the directorate for combating smuggling and corruption of the Ministry of Security of the Russian Federation;

Andrey Chernenko, chief of the public relations center of the Russian Federation's Ministry of Security; and

Ernst Chernyy, former laboratory chief in the fisheries industry.

The video shows a group investigating allegations of corruption by ex-RSFSR Minister A.E. Nesterov and a director of the Mikron firm, in which unnamed parties recount their roles. Antipov, interviewed in his office, says that he was bribed to drop the case and tendered his resignation because of the pressure brought to bear on him.

The program then gives instances of corruption in the fishing industry. Television analyst Aleksandr Radov points out that the industry is still headed by party appointees. He asks how ranking officials of that industry are able to finance personal trips abroad and calls for a law to close loopholes which encourage corruption.

The program then shows a film taken by the Ministry of Security on the sale of ex-army property from Russia to other ex-Soviet republics. The film shows a large enclosure packed with armored personnel carriers and a correspondent saying that a recent attempt to dispatch 12 APC's from Nizhnyy Novgorod to Azerbaijan was thwarted when they were discovered on board an aircraft. The Nizhnyy Novgorod tax inspectorate will have to pay a fine amounting to 10 times the value of the APC's, the correspondent says.

Grinenko says that his antismuggling directorate every week uncovers instances of illegal metal exports from Russia according to a strictly organized system. The video shows boxes full of ruble notes and railway wagons. Grinenko says that investigators recently uncovered in Lithuania a batch of 290 million meters of Russian aluminum pipes; 100 wagon loads had already been dispatched to Holland, over 100 are on the way to Moscow from Vilnius, and 40 wagon loads have been detained in Moscow. Grinenko says: "Unfortunately, we are forced to state that not only, let's say, Lithuanian businessmen but also a number of quite senior leaders of ours are involved in these deals."

Goptar is then interviewed on the army's involvement. He says: "This is a phenomenon which permeates the entire administrative mechanism of our armed forces, from the small garrison to the central apparatus of the Ministry of Defense." He says that it is linked with the creation of commercial structures containing only high ranking military officials intent on lining their own pockets rather than creating favorable conditions for servicemen.

Speaking of privatization, Goptar says that the main damage was done by Shaposhnikov himself, who twice allowed but then banned privatization. In particular, Goptar accuses the Novikon joint stock society, (Russo-baltvest), and the military stock exchange section of corruption. He says that at a meeting with public organizations held by the committee for work with army personnel, and with representatives of the Ministry of Defense and High Command, he delivered a statement

on behalf of the executive committee of the Independent Trade Union of Servicemen demanding replies from Marshal Shaposhnikov to various questions; however, no answers have been received. Goptar adds that if no reply is received or if there is no denial of press allegations about commercial army corruption "we will demand the resignation of Marshal Shaposhnikov." Goptar says that the defense minister should be a civilian, because this would make it possible to stop corruption at its source.

Presidential Bodyguards Arrested

PM2707154392 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 25 Jul 92 p 1

["Own Information" report under the "Events, Opinions, Facts" rubric: "Presidential Bodyguards Arrested"]

[Text] The Russian Security Ministry Investigation Administration has instituted criminal proceedings against two members of the Russian Federation president's Main Bodyguard Administration. They are charged with illegally acquiring, importing, and selling weapons. Other suspects who are unconnected with the bodyguard service are also subject to criminal proceedings. The ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI editorial office was informed of this at the Russian Security Ministry Public Relations Center.

Grachev, Barannikov Receive 'Marshal's Stars'

PM2807091992 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Jul 92 p 1

[Russian Federation president's press service report on President Yeltsin's 25 July presentation of "Marshal's Stars" to Defense Minister Grachev and Security Minister Barannikov]

[Text] On 25 July in Moscow Russian President B. Yeltsin presented "marshal's stars" to Russian Federation Defense Minister Army General P. Grachev and Russian Federation Security Minister Army General V. Barannikov. As he presented the special insignia the president wished the ministers success in the work of serving the fatherland.

Supreme Soviet

Official Stand on South Kurils Still 'Unclear'

LD2807103192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0958 GMT 28 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Aleksey Tabachnikov]

[Text] Moscow July 28 TASS—The official stand of the Russian Foreign Ministry on the problem of the South Kurils remains unclear, Oleg Rumyantsev, executive secretary of the Constitutional Commission, told reporters during a break in the closed-door parliamentary hearings on Russo-Japanese relations held in Moscow on Tuesday [28 July].

Summing up the hearings, he said that the progovernmental lobby attempted to question the status of the hearings. Despite this, it has been possible to begin a substantive debate.

Rumyantsev said that the speech of Deputy Foreign Minister Georgiy Kunadze had given no indications of the effort to meet halfway the parliamentary position.

Rumyantsev said that before the official position is established, it is difficult to say how the parliament would influence it. However, if the Russian president does not refuse to visit Japan, "we shall be insisting that Boris Yeltsin meet people's deputies so that they could state publicly their views of the problem of a peace treaty with Japan and of the Kuril Islands", Rumyantsev said.

Rumyantsev on Hearing

LD2807094992 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 0800 GMT 28 Jul 92

[Interview with Oleg Rumyantsev, people's deputy and senior secretary of the Constitutional Commission, by correspondent R. Oganesov in Moscow on 27 July; from the "Novosti" newscast—recorded]

[Text] [Presenter] The problem of the South Kuril islands is being examined on 28 July in the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet. People's Deputy Oleg Rumyantsev, senior secretary of the Constitutional Commission, is delivering the main report at the closed hearing. Our correspondent met with him on 27 July.

[Rumyantsev] The hearing has one important aim, namely to assist the government and the president to draw up a true package of ideas and decisions towards untying this knot in Russo-Japanese relations. We have no intention of dictating our position to the president or the government, but in the run-up to President Yeltsin's very important September visit to Tokyo, it seems to me that there should now be the widest and most public competition between various concepts and methods of resolving this problem. If this visit is prepared in haste, by means of bureaucratic and diversionary maneuvers, then I fear that the September visit will be followed by Great October.

[Oganesov] Your name is being linked with whether it is expedient that the visit should take place at all. What is your view?

[Rumyantsev] In my view, haste in concluding a peace treaty—and that is precisely the aim of the visit—may incur irreversible consequences for the Russian Federation in terms of domestic and foreign policy, and more besides. I fear that haste in concluding a peace treaty, and the corresponding solution of the territorial issue, may raise the question of the whether such a solution is

valid. This may shake the institution of the Presidency of the Russian Federation itself, and thereby create conditions for opposition and ultra-right wing forces to step up their activity and may, all in all, destroy the accord—albeit fragile—towards which we are moving. I believe that unless the Japanese side itself opts to suggest shifting the date of the visit, the president should himself go there with a clear understanding that there should be no haste in concluding a peace treaty.

Filatov Opposes Public Hearings

OW2707192692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1824 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Sergey Filatov, First Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Soviet, told INTERFAX in an interview that the fact that Tuesday's [28 July] hearings on Russo-Japanese relations will be held in camera does not necessarily guarantee their secrecy. "It is simply an opportunity to achieve a higher degree of openness of opinions", Filatov remarked. He stressed that during the course of the parliamentary hearings, which will be attended not only by MP's [members of parliament], but also by Foreign Ministry and Ministry of Defence experts, differing reports might be made, which would be best not made public for the time being. Filatov said that the hearings would take place in the former Conference Hall of the Council of Ministers in the House of Soviets.

The Russian Deputy Foreign Minister, Georgiy Kunadze, also remarked in an interview with INTERFAX that the Foreign Ministry, complaining that the hearings would be held in camera, does not intend to give a press conference on their results.

He also told us that Filatov's working conference on Monday [27 July] did not touch on any of the principal questions concerning the forthcoming hearings, but cover only aspects of their organisation.

Regional Affairs

'Dissident' Considers Moscow Mayoral Candidacy

LD2707204192 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1900 GMT 27 Jul 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Elections for a new mayor are due to be held in the capital on 5 December 1992, at the initiative of the Moscow Soviet. Vladimir Bukovskiy, prominent dissident and defender of human rights, has been named as a possible candidate for this post. He addressed the Moscow Soviet on 27 July about his possible candidacy.

Bukovskiy said that even the most honest mayor would be unable to do anything while existing laws remain in force and the post-communist structures continue to exist. Bukovskiy termed as absurd the legal situation in the major cities, where the mayor's office coexists with the city soviets. He emphasized that the confrontation between the mayor's office and Moscow Soviet is a political deadlock.

At present, in Bukovskiy's view, it is essential to urgently reform the structure of the city's self-government, to allow it to work. One more item that is also essential is for Muscovites themselves to actively wish to extricate themselves from the crisis and to save themselves. Bukovskiy has not observed such activeness in Moscow and that is why he regards the submission of his candidacy for the post of Moscow's mayor as irresponsible at present.

[Begin Bukovskiy recording] However, if a movement of this nature does emerge in the country, or in the city, I will be the first to come here and will do all I can, but not necessarily as mayor. [end recording]

Bukovskiy Candidacy 'Confirmed'

OW2707193192 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1824 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The first deputy chairman of the Moscow Council [Soviet] Yuriy Sedykh-Bondarenko has confirmed that a well-known civil rights activist and former dissident Vladimir Bukovskiy is one of the candidates for the post of Moscow mayor who is expected to be elected on December 5.

The Moscow Council passed a resolution on elections on June 25 as the majority of the deputies believes that after Gavriil Popov's resignation Yuriy Luzhkov was unlawfully appointed for this post.

Addressing the deputies of all levels and representatives of the Moscow public on Monday [27 July] in the Moscow Council, Vladimir Bukovskiy expressed "concern over the fate of democracy". According to Bukovskiy, he will hardly be able to integrate into the political activity of the country. Bukovskiy declared that he can not establish union with the conformists who are in power now. Bukovskiy is convinced that the present state structures will do their utmost to prevent such people as he to gain real power. "But it is impossible to improve the situation in Russia only by elections of a mayor though he may be perfect", he underlined.

Making assessment of the current situation in Russia, Bukovskiy declared that the present collapse is primarily the consequence of the communist ruling and he added that Yeltsin-Gaydar government managed to choose the worst out of all possible scenarios of reforms' implementation.

Speaking on the political situation, he said that one must not be afraid of strikes; one must not be afraid of confrontation as the country needs a campaign of mass disobedience and general strike. According to Bukovskiy, casual people took over the power after the

August coup and have formed an original coalition of liberal communists and democrats who failed to develop a programme of radical reforms which situation of that time necessitated.

According to Bukovskiy, there was a chance in August to kill the wounded communist regime and in the first turn by dissolving and destroying the Committee on State Security [CSS]. He declared that "the outer services of the CSS stood behind the August events, I am convinced but I can not prove that". An indirect confirmation of his words, Bukovskiy says, is a series of mysterious suicides of senior party officials after the putsch. "The PGU (first intelligence department of the Committee on State Security - outer intelligence) stood behind those who jumped from windows", he noted.

Bukovskiy expressed his conviction that democracy, general democratic values, and market relations are possible only in conditions of tough competition. Otherwise there will be a confrontation. And in this situation the reds will inevitably intensify their activity.

Bukovskiy believes it was insane to dissolve the USSR without settling the most important problem, the problem of borders and the presence of the Soviet Army's units in the former republics of the Soviet Union, "when they became hostages of nationalist leaders".

In his opinion, at present two ways of developments are possible: 1. Supporters of Sterligov and generals try to consolidate the country using the treaty of a social explosion which is probable enough. These forces will not be able to hold power, because they have no concrete program, and the stake on the army is the wrong option. 2. Spontaneous irrational social explosion which none of the political parties will be able to take advantage of. That will lead to fragmentation of the country, and the territories will start to decide what to do themselves. The collapse will end up with the creation of principalities.

In summation, Valery [as received] Bukovskiy said that he declined the proposal to become a candidate for the Moscow Mayor's office because, in his words, the majority of Muscovites had been consumed by apathy toward politics. "I won't be able to become a candidate to the Mayor's office unless I feel that the atmosphere is sufficiently explosive and the people are ready for a confrontation. If only I sense that such atmosphere has taken shape, I will come, and I will join the struggle and I will do everything possible for the democratic development of the country," he concluded.

Bryansk Residents Appeal on Kuril Islands

LD2807091192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0630 GMT 28 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yuriy Lodkin]

[Text] Bryansk July 28 TASS—The Bryansk regional committee for the defence of the Kuril Islands during its session held on Monday [27 July] evening, unanimously decided to direct an appeal to the Russian Federation's Supreme Soviet deputies to defend the territorial integrity and indivisibility of the sovereign Russian state.

In the appeal addressed to Russian President Boris Yeltsin, signed by over 10,000 Bryansk residents, proclaiming the Kuril Islands as an integral part of Russia, members of the committee demanded an open discussion on the Kuril problem in the Supreme Soviet, adoption of documents on a roll-call voting basis and publication of its results in the mass information media. The committee also expressed its readiness to extend moral and material support to residents of the Kuril Islands.

Signatures Collected for Yeltsin Resignation

LD2607090792 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0500 GMT 26 Jul 92

[Text] Approximately 25,000 citizens' signatures have been collected in St. Petersburg by a group that initiated the referendum on recalling Boris Yeltsin from the post of Russian president. This has been reported by ANI. This action has been going on since 30 April. In accordance with the law it can be continued until 30 August.

North Caucasus Republics Sign Agreement

LD2407173892 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1400 GMT 24 Jul 92

[Report by correspondent Shakmurdzayev from Nalchik; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Bilateral agreements on friendship and cooperation between the republics of Kabardino-Balkariya, Karachayevo-Cherkessiya, and Adygey were signed in Nalchik on 24 July. The agreements envisage creation of a single educational and information area, and close cooperation in the spheres of economy, science, culture, and health.

[Begin V.M. Kokov, president of Kabardino-Balkariya, recording] In our opinion, on 24 July the North Caucasian republics made a very important historic step. This is a long-term agreement. And it is essentially the first step in implementation of the extensive rights granted to the republics within the Russian Federation by the Federation Treaty. We see this as a step toward the strengthening not only of economic and cultural ties between the republics, but also as a step which could serve as a good example for strengthening the unity of our Russian Federation as a whole. [end recording]

IBRD Expresses Readiness To Invest in Oil

PM2707093592 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 24 Jul 92 First Edition p 1

[From "News" column of ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA, ITAR-TASS reports: "There Will Be 'Injections,' Provided..."]

[Text] The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, a delegation of experts from which completed its familiarization with Russia's main fuel and energy raw materials base on 23 July, has expressed its readiness to provide dollar "injections" for the West Siberian oil and gas complex. At the same time, in the experts' view, the investments will take place only after the following five demands have been met: Oil prices must be raised to world price levels within 24 months; taxes on the oil-extracting sector must be reduced and restructured; specific individuals responsible for oil industry reform must be identified in state structures; legislation on the oil industry must be formulated and adopted; and machinery for providing credit and monitoring the utilization of funds must be developed.

Main Concern To Save Harvest in Krasnodar Kray

LD2707132292 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1000 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Report by Irina Gubanova, including recorded remarks by Russian President Boris Yeltsin; opening paragraph read by announcer]

[Text] The situation in the agrarian sector remains difficult. No agreement has been reached between the state and farms on the purchase prices for the new harvest's grain. This was the main issue during Boris Yeltsin's trip to Krasnodar Kray. The grain harvest there has been complicated by bad weather. The Kuban is being flooded by rain. Our correspondent Irina Gubanova reports.

[Gubanova] For the moment, the debate about the price of grain has taken second place. The main concern is to save the harvest. Unharvested wheat is knee-deep in water. Mown wheat in sheaves is sprouting, and the threshed wheat needs careful drying several times. The moisture content of the grain is up to 18-23 percent. For example, in Korenovskiy Rayon 50 mm of rain fell in 24 hours. Combine harvesters get stuck. If you try to mow by hand, you only laugh, but it's laughter through tears.

As of today, the region's losses amount to 35,000 tonnes. This situation will undoubtedly affect prices. The leaders of the farms understand this and are making every effort not to go vividly bankrupt; they are keeping the wheat and not giving it to the state. Around 2 million tonnes of grain have now been harvested, and less than 200,000 tonnes have been sold. In such weather, grain which is not properly stored rots. It is a great risk. But judging from what President Boris Yeltsin said during his recent visit to the Kuban, the government has adopted a firm position.

[Yeltsin] I think I will listen to specialists and the kray leaders here. But our position is fairly clear-cut. It has now been worked out that the purchase price for grain is 10 rubles. This suits the majority, but some are insisting on 13 or 13.5 rubles, although the price at exchanges is now 11 rubles, so we want it around the exchange price, 10 rubles.

In this connection, I am a little suspicious that Krasnodar Kray, which already has 3 million tonnes of grain, has given the state only 154,000 tonnes. I don't understand their positions, and today I am going to put pressure on them.

[Gubanova] It is difficult to say where this confrontation will lead. There are some rayons which have not given a single kilo of grain to the state, and, I repeat, there are no facilities for storing grain. The kray administration has now decided to raise the purchase price to 13-14 rubles a kilo, probably from its own budget. By doing this, they hope to stabilize state deliveries by the beginning of next week.

'Don' Harvesters Help Save Kuban Harvest

PM2407090392 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 21 Jul 92

[Video report by V. Obraztsov and V. Shebakov from the Kuban; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] [Obraztsov] The barley harvest in the Kuban is practically finished. Yields, despite all the fears, are not bad: more than 42 quintals per hectare from almost one-third of a million hectares. It is now clear that in addition to the well-conceived measures within the framework of the emergency situation declared for the time of the harvest, it has been the "Don" combine harvesters which helped to save the grain. Of the approximately 10,000 combine harvesters involved in the harvest in the Kuban, almost half are "Don" combines. They had been the subject of many discussions and arguments. It was said that they were too heavy, and too expensive. However, it does not bear thinking how much grain would have been lost without them. At the Rossiya agricultural firm, where these combines are being tested, and on many other farms in the Kuban, both rice and wheat are grown. For these the "Don" combines have proved to be the most economical. [video shows a huge field and "Don" combine harvesters from various angles]

Low Feed Procurement Rates 'Risk' to Farms

PM2407091492 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Jul 92 First Edition p 3

[AEN report: "Will Cows Last the Winter?"]

[Text] Judging by the "extraordinary" figures cited by Kirov Oblast Statistics Administration, there is a big risk that most of the oblast's farms will be without animal feed next winter. As of 15 July, only 0.5 quintals of feed units have been procured per notional head of livestock, which is 11 times less than on the same date last year. Thus, 34,000 tonnes of hay have been laid in (514,000 tonnes last year), 26,000 tonnes of ready silage (419,000 tonnes last year), 39,000 tonnes of cured hay (291,000 last year), and 5,000 tonnes of grass meal (20,000 last year).

Report on Khabarovsk Kray Grain Harvest

OW2307093692 Khabarovsk Radio Khabarovsk Network in Russian 0950 GMT 20 Jul 92

[From the "Kray News"]

[Text] A directive by the head of the kray administration ordains the timely preparation of transportation for moving the products of the new harvest. According to this document, the administrative heads of cities and rayons, as well as leaders of enterprises and organizations—and on the basis of signed agreements—must dispatch trucks, trailers, and mobile cranes to kray sovkhozes and kolkhozes at the proper time. The directive authorizes administrative heads to enlist the necessary quantity of equipment to harvest the fruit and vegetable produce. The responsibility for supplying fuel and lubricating materials to insure the uninterrupted work of tractors and automobiles is placed on the kray administration agricultural department and the Khabarovsk Nefteprodukt Association. The directive also applies to those who are responsible for the timely repair of roads, as well as for supplying food, cultural, and medical services for those on whom the fate of the 1992 harvest depends. A kray cooperative group headed by Ivanyuta, deputy head of the kray administration, was charged with efficient coordination of the harvesting.

Agricultural workers of the Leninskiy Rayon began harvesting barley. The hot month of July hastened the ripening of the grain, but the soil obviously lacked moisture. Therefore, an average harvest is predicted.

Not all farming enterprises of the Jewish Autonomous Oblast have organized efficient weeding operations this summer. Due to a sharp increase in the cost of agricultural aviation services, sovkhozes have had to do without them. It must be said that the chemical weeding of grain crops with ground equipment was carried out fairly successfully in Oktyabrskiy Rayon. Here oblast farmers have also began harvesting barley. As recommended by specialists, a two-stage harvesting is being carried out. To some extent, this is a forced measure since most farming enterprises can get no drying equipment and will have to place their trust in drying the grain stacks.

However, the two-stage harvesting makes it possible to get better quality seeds, which is important today. Previously, the farming enterprises of the Jewish Autonomous Oblast used to buy up to 3,000 tonnes of grain seed, but this season's financial deficit forces the agricultural workers to rely largely on their own strength and ability.

Chechenya Council Urges Dudayev Resignation

LD2507223792 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1500 GMT 25 Jul 92

[Text] The Chechenya Government should resign and Dzhokhar Dudayev should resign. This demand was made at the session of the coordination council of Chechenya sociopolitical movements. It was held on 25 July at the initiative of the executive committee of the national congress of the Chechenya people. Sharply criticizing Dzhokhar Dudayev and the government he heads, those present demanded the setting up of a new cabinet of ministers, taking into account the view of the republic's sociopolitical movements. Before resigning, it is proposed that the government should report on its actions. The meeting's participants also consider it essential to remove the contradictions in the Chechenya constitution in order to separate clearly the legislative, executive, and judicial authorities. If these demands are not met, the NEGA agency reports, it has been decided to start holding mass meetings from 10 August.

Dudayev Criticizes Russian Government Moves

LD2607215992 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1900 GMT 26 Jul 92

[Video report by correspondent G. Brynza from Karachayevo-Cherkessk—from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] In the nationwide poll held in Karachayevo-Cherkessk last March, the majority of the population opted for a single, indivisible republic within Russia. The Democratic Dzhamagat public movement, however, recognizes neither the poll itself, nor its results, considering them to be illegal and seeking the restoration of the autonomous formation which was abolished at one stage in the past. Quite a large section of the Karachayev people, and of other peoples in the republic, object to this.

Chechen President Dzhokhar Dudayev was invited to attend the latest session of the Dzhamagat emergency congress, the participants of which were issued their mandates right there on the spot. He arrived with an entourage of about 30 armed men. In passing, General Dudayev said he had been offended that the Karachayevo-Cherkessk administration had not deigned to meet him, even though the visit is a private one and was not announced in advance.

As for the restoration of the Karachay autonomous formation, the Chechen president commented: The blame for that lies with the government of Russia, which is deliberately sowing dissension and misunderstanding between the peoples of northern Caucausus. Asked how a common language could be found with the opposition and the parliament of his own republic, Dzhokar Dudayev countered:

[Dudayev] Well, our parliament agrees on some things, disagrees on others. Let me tell you, things are blown up in parliament, not without the assistance of our brothers from the upper echelons of the Slavs. I am not counting on things being easy, not counting on an easy road at all. Our road is a difficult one, but the right one. [video shows public meeting, Dudayev arriving with bodyguards, attending meeting, being presented with gifts, then being interviewed by correspondent]

Chechen Legislature Rejects Draft Budget

LD2707203692 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1900 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Text] The Chechen legislature has rejected the draft budget submitted by Dzhokhar Dudayev. As reported by the ANI agency, in the opinion of the parliamentary majority, the draft budget does not contain a number of important articles, which makes it an inaccurate document. The draft budget has been sent for revision.

The Chechen legislature will soon embark on a discussion of a constitutional amendment. According to the amendment, in the event of a crisis of power, the head of executive structures must resign, parliament must be dissolved, and elections held. Husseyn Akhmatov, the parliamentary speaker, said that he will be insisting on calling general elections if it becomes impossible to resolve the conflict between the legislative power and Chechen leader Dzhokhar Dudayev. The Chechen legislature has been demanding Dudayev's resignation as head of the cabinet and the dissolution of his personal security service for several months now.

Tatarstan Reaches Barter Agreement With Hungary

LD2407152692 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0758 GMT 24 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Zhirnikhin]

[Text] Budapest, 24 Jul—Tatarstan will supply 2 million tonnes of oil to Hungary every year until 1998. Hungary will, in turn, send its partner foodstuffs, various technologies and production systems, and "Ikarus" buses for a total sum of 100,000 forints (one dollar is equal to approximately 78 forints) in the next five years.

An accord on this was reached during talks that took place in Budapest between Bela Kadar, the Hungarian minister of international economic relations, and Tatarstan Deputy Prime Minister Ravil Muratov. This agreement enacts the protocol on the intent to expand economic cooperation between Hungary and Tatarstan that was signed in April.

Tatar Foreign Affairs Department To Be Set Up

LD2707051492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0446 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Text] President Mintimer Shaymiyev of Tatarstan has issued a decree to set up a department on foreign affairs and CIS issues.

The new agency will devise strategies in the sphere of international and inter-republican relations, Vice-President Vasiliy Likhachev, head of the new department, told TASS.

In contrast to the ministry of foreign relations, which specializes in day-to-day management of foreign ties, conducting talks and signing contracts with foreign countries, corporations and firms, the new presidential department will set foreign policy priorities.

The department plans to "set up a foreign policy council, which will include analysts from Tatarstan, CIS countries and foreign states," Likhachev said.

"We are prepared to open trade and information representations in 20 countries," he went on.

"There is an agreement to open a representation of the Russian foreign ministry in Kazan to help coordinate foreign policy. The coordination principle will be the key principle in the work of the new department," he said.

Negotiations With Russian Movements Begin

OW2707191992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1824 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Negotiations between Tartarstan's national organizations and representatives of Russian democratic movements are being conducted behind closed doors in Kazani. It is expected that the negotiations will result in the signing of a joint agreement.

The day before the negotiations Chairman of the political council of the Tartarstan Social Center (TSC) Damir Iskhakov stated in an interview with INTERFAX that "the main difference lies in the views of the the Republic's status." According to Iskhakov, the TSC and its supporters stand for the development of a sovereign Tartarstan, but the other side believes Tartarstan should remain in the Russian Federation.

However, Iskhakov expressed that in the course of the negotiations the participants might find "many areas of common interest." Ishhakov indicated this could occur in discussions of economic and social programs.

International Affairs

Procedure for Financial Settlements Changed

AU2507162792 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 17 Jul 92 p 2

["Ukrainian Presidential Decree on Changing the Procedure for Financial Settlements Between Economic Subjects of Ukraine and of the Russian Federation" issued in Kiev on 14 July]

[Text] For fulfilling the agreement between Ukraine and the Russian Federation on a further development of interstate relations that was adopted on 23 June 1992 and for ensuring timely payments for mutual deliveries of products, I resolve as follows:

1. The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, with the participation of Ukraine's National Bank, must introduce, starting on 1 July 1992, financial settlements between economic subjects of Ukraine and of the Russian Federation in terms of demand-authorizations for payment instead of demands for payment.

2. To recommend that all enterprises, institutions, and organizations of Ukraine dispatch products from Ukraine after receiving payment or payment guarantees.

L.Kravchuk, president of Ukraine
Kiev, 14 July 1992

Minority Rights Commission With Hungary Opens

LD2807032192 Kiev Ukrayinske Telebachennya Television Network in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Text] A mixed Ukrainian-Hungarian commission on providing the rights of ethnic minorities began 27 July in Budapest. Mykola Makarevych, head of the Ukrainian part of the commission, first deputy foreign minister of Ukraine, was received by Hungarian Foreign Minister Geza Jeszenszky. The two sides exchanged information on ethnic affairs and on a wide range of international problems of mutual interest and discussed the questions of developing bilateral relations. The first plenary sitting of the mixed Ukrainian-Hungarian commission was held this afternoon.

Talks Held With French Envoy in Simferpol

LD2807033992 Kiev Ukrayinske Telebachennya Television Network in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Text] According to the press service of the Council of Ministers, today in Simferopol, there was a meeting between Vitaliy Kurashik, head of the Council of Ministers of Crimea, and Hugues Pernet, extraordinary plenipotentiary ambassador of France to Ukraine. The following issues were discussed today: creating a free economic zone in Crimea, attracting French capital for Ukraine wine and perfume industries, developing tourism, and constructing an air-rail complex for Simferopol. Mr. Pernet's agenda in Crimea includes visiting Yalta, Sevastopol, and Bakhchisaray; and meeting with representatives from political parties, public organizations, and the military.

Chinese Agricultural Delegation Visits

LD2407175992 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 0000 GMT 24 Jul 92

[Text] A delegation of representatives of Chinese agricultural firms is visiting Sumy region. The members have met with the leaders of the region's state administration. Discussed were proposals of the Chinese side for growing and processing vegetables on the territory of the region as well as the possibility to set up joint ventures.

National Affairs

Garrison Service Leader Appointed in Crimea

LD2807105892 Kiev UKRINFORM in Russian 0901 GMT 28 Jul 92

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Nikolay Zayka]

[Text] Kiev, 28 Jul—From now on, all commanders of garrisons of the Ukrainian Armed Forces deployed on the Crimean peninsula will be placed under the command of Major General Viktor Paliy, commander of the 32nd Army Corps. He has been appointed senior military leader in charge of garrison service in the Crimea. This has been done, according to the press service of the Ukrainian Ministry of Defense, with the purpose of strengthening garrison service, order, and organization when carrying out garrison measures.

New 17th Air Force Army Commander Appointed

AU2607131492 Kiev URYADOVYY KURYER in Ukrainian 17 Jul 92 p 2

[Ukrainian Presidential Decree "On the Commander of the 17th Airforce Army" issued in Kiev on 13 July]

[Text] To appoint Kolodiy, Gennadiy Vasylyoych, as commander of the 17th Air Force Army.

Kiev, 13 July 1992

Biography of Deputy Prime Minister Noted

AU2707131292 Kiev URYADOVYY KURYER in Ukrainian 17 Jul 92 p 1

[Biographical information on Valentyn Kostyantynovych Symonenko, newly appointed deputy prime minister]

[Text] Practically his whole life is connected with Odessa. He was born there in 1940. He is Ukrainian by nationality, and studied at the Odessa Construction Engineering Institute, from which he graduated in 1962. He worked as an engineer at the Odessa Film Studio and at the "Pivdendiprogidroliz" Institute [Southern State

Institute for the Planning of Hydrolysis Industry Establishments]. He has covered the path from engineer to director of a plant for reinforced-concrete structures. He was an active party official. Since 1983, he was chairman of the Odessa City Executive Committee. Ukraine's people's deputy.

He has a profound knowledge of the practical activity of executive organs of power and of problems of construction and investments. While holding the post of Odessa mayor, he contributed greatly to the reconstruction and development of the city. Since March 1992, he has been Ukraine's presidential representative in Odessa Oblast.

Official Criticizes Dismissal of Lanovyy

LD2507104892 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 0000 GMT 24 Jul 92

[Text] Member of the Peoples' Council faction in parliament, member of the presidium of Ukraine's parliament, Les Tanyuk, qualified the dismissal of vice premier, minister of economy, Volodymyr Lanovyy, as an absolute Bolshevik dominant [sentence as heard]. At the same time, in the opinion of Les Tanyuk, this move may consolidate the opposition which actively comes out against the Fokin government.

As far as the appointment of Valentyn Symonenko, first vice premier of Ukraine, is concerned, his candidature is not the worst choice, Les Tanyuk indicates in his interview for the newspaper NEZAVISIMOST. Valentin Symonenko is an experienced manager, an expert in economy who favors reforms leading toward market economy.

Fulfillment of Chernobyl Programs Ordered

AU2707131892 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 18 Jul 92 p 2

["Ukrainian Presidential Order on Measures for Organizing the Fulfillment of Programs for Eliminating Consequences of the Accident at the Chernobyl Atomic Electric Power Plant" issued in Kiev on 15 July]

[Text] For the purpose of ensuring the timely fulfillment of the tasks stipulated in programs for eliminating consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl Atomic Electric Power Plant:

1. To authorize Ukraine's Ministry of Investments and Construction to organize the fulfillment by ministries, departments, oblast state administrations, and construction organizations of tasks associated with the building of all types of facilities, as stipulated in the programs for eliminating consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl Atomic Electric Power Plant, as well as control over the implementation of these tasks.

2. To commission Ukraine's presidential representatives in oblasts to supervise the fulfillment of the programs for eliminating consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl Atomic Electric Power Plant.

L. Kravchuk, president of Ukraine
Kiev, 14 July 1992

Fire on Peat Bog Near Chernobyl Zone Noted

LD2607215292 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 2100 GMT 26 Jul 92

[Text] The heat wave that we are presently having in Ukraine resulted in a sudden fire on almost 100 hectares of peat bog in Chernigov district of Chernigov region. The danger has been complicated by the fact that this area lies adjacent to the 30 km Chernobyl contaminated zone.

96 Million Rubles Allotted for Social Security

LD2407134892 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 24 Jul 92

[Text] According to the press service of the Ukrainian prime minister, the Ukrainian Cabinet of Ministers has instructed that 96 million rubles be allocated to the Ministry of Social Security for 1992. This will enable it to make monthly payments to needy citizens for purchasing food and for enhancing their pensions. This sum will be used to recruit additional employees into town and rayon social security bodies, and to purchase necessary equipment.

Miners Oppose Export of Coal

LD2407135792 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0800 GMT 24 Jul 92

[Text] Coal from the western Donbass will not be dispatched abroad, in particular to the United States, as was proposed previously.

When representatives of miners' collectives went abroad, they saw for themselves that such commerce is not advantageous to them. Thus, when their fuel is sold by foreign middlemen to underdeveloped countries at $20 dollars per tonne, Ukrainian miners simply lose out. They saw for themselves that in the United States, raw materials are priced more cheaply than coal mining equipment [as heard].

Having weighed up all pros and cons, the miners decided that it would be more beneficial to engage in commerce at home, that it would be better to buy equipment from their compatriots—and for rubles—and to channel hard currency exclusively into social aims.

Appeal Made for Lifting Coal Price Controls

LD2507193392 Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian 1500 GMT 25 Jul 92

[Text] An appeal was published today by managers of 218 enterprises and organizations of the Industry Ministry to the Ukrainian president, the chairman of the Supreme Soviet, Prime Minister Vitold Fokin, and the chairman of the Board of the Ukrainian National Bank. Participants in a conference note that the measures implemented by the government on stabilizing the

Ukrainian economy and getting it out of crisis have not produced a significant effect on strengthening economic ties and financial position of enterprises, and on stabilizing the production. There is a threat of full paralysis of the economy.

The managers of enterprises and organizations think it necessary for the Ukrainian government to stop regulating coal prices and to give an opportunity to conclude direct treaties between mines and coal consumers. It is necessary, with effect from the third quarter, to reduce the income and value added taxes. According to the participants in the conference, the president and the government of the republic should create optimal conditions for the development and stabilization of economic ties between Ukraine and Russia and not to allow discriminatory measures to be taken against each other for political or other motives. To this effect, it is proposed to the presidents of the Russian Federation and Ukraine and to the heads of the Cabinets of Ministers to establish control over the creation and work of the permanent intergovernmental commission.

Minister Accused of 'Sabotaging' Agreements

LD2707084492 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 0700 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Text] The Ukrainian Independent Trade Union has presented the government of Ukraine with an ultimatum. At the meeting with a governmental commission, trade union representatives accused the industrial minister of sabotaging the earlier reached agreements with President Leonid Kravchuk and demanded that the president himself and Prime Minister Vitold Fokin take part in the talks. They also want state subsidies for the Donbass coal mines and higher wages in the present conditions of galloping inflation.

Deputy Prime Minister on Grain Subsidies

LD2707115192 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 0000 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Text] In the view of the First Deputy Prime Minister of Ukraine Valentyn Symonenko, if the present price on bread remains the same as of 1 August in Ukraine, 8 billion payment coupons will be necessary in monthly subsidies. He also stated that the Cabinet of Ministers has already prepared a number of documents which will make it possible to overcome such a tough financial situation, leaving [the] price on bread unchanged.

Government Raises Sugar Prices

OW2607135792 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1150 GMT 26 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Ukraine's government increased the retail price of sugar to 50 rubles per one kilo. However, according to the Kharkov Novosti news agency, local authorities were granted the right to allocate funds from their budgets to reduce the price of sugar that was to be bought against tickets in the preceding months.

Foreign Journalists Prohibited From Sevastopol

OW2707105092 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0945 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Foreign journalists' entry into Sevastopol has been officially prohibited. Such a decision was adopted by the city Mayor Ivan Ermakov on July 24th. Although journalists from the Netherlands and Austria had a permit from the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry's Information Office and the CIS Naval Headquarters, they have been unable to enter the city. Official motivation for the ban - the need "for permanent accreditation in Sevastopol" - has proved unsatisfactory for the newsmen.

Kharkov Oblast Steps Up Protection Methods

LD2407140392 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 24 Jul 92

[Text] The president's representative in Kharkov Oblast has issued an instruction calling for greater protection of the oblast's population against criminal encroachments by citizens of other states. The residential registration [propyska] of persons arriving from the states of the former USSR has been restricted. Private persons, cooperatives, small enterprises, and other commercial structures are not allowed to sell alcoholic drinks without an appropriate permit of the state administration. From now on, citizens of other states will not be able to sell automobiles or other vehicles within Kharkov Oblast.

Crimean Tatar National Movement Holds Congress

LD2707134392 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Text] The Crimean Tatar National Movement made changes to its statute and the main trends of its activity at its second congress, which ended in Simferopol yesterday. The movement's goals, it was stressed at the congress, remain unchanged. These goals are returning the Crimean Tatars to their historical fatherland and restoring their national statehood.

The congress also noted that in order to increase influence over the assembly, the Tatars need a public and political organization which is considerably more united and flexible than it is now. Therefore, from now on the movement will focus its attention mostly on political activity and will strive to become an independent national party of Crimean Tatars.

The congress stressed that Crimean Tatars see their future in union with the peoples of Ukraine.

Establishes New Party

OW2707142792 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1300 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Second Congress of the Organization of the Crimean Tatar National Movement [OCTNM] held at Simferopol, the Crimea, last weekend confirmed its principal aim, the rapid return of the Crimean Tatar people to their national home and the restoration of their state.

Our correspondent reports that 73 delegates from the Crimea, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Russia were in favor of gradually transforming the OCTNM into a political party and opening OCTNM offices in the CIS states with the largest Crimean Tatar populations.

The congress re-elected Refat Chubarov OCTNM chairman.

People's Deputies Issue Appeal on Fleet

LD2607090192 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0500 GMT 26 Jul 92

[Text] EKSPRESS KHRONIKA reports that an appeal issued by a group of Ukrainian people's deputies has been made public in Kiev. The deputies are alarmed by the fact that negotiations on the fate of the Black Sea Fleet are being dragged out. In their opinion, as an independent state, Ukraine does not have to get another country's permission to have its own fleet. It is also stated that the creation of the Ukrainain fleet is today's urgent task.

Naval Union Demands Creation of National Navy

LD2707134292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1310 GMT 27 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Roman Zadunaiskiy]

[Text] Moscow July 27 TASS—The Ukrainian Union of Officers of the Navy has issued a statement to demand in no uncertain terms an end to delays in establishing a Ukrainian National Naval Force.

The statement, published by the Ukrainian NARODNAYA ARMIYA (PEOPLE'S ARMY) newspaper, called further delays inadmissible in light of the Dagomys agreement between Russia and Ukraine on the creation of the Ukrainian National Naval Force, ITAR-TASS learned at the press centre of the Black Sea Fleet.

The statement was prompted by the continuing deadlock in attempts at dividing the Black Sea Fleet property and cases of discrimination against those among the Black Sea Fleet personnel who took the military oath of allegiance to Ukraine.

The Ukrainian Union of Officers insists that Ukrainian Naval Headquarters be set up the soonest possible, incorporating all the necessary command and supply structures.

It calls for creating the Ukrainian Naval Force on the basis of newly built military ships and vessels ahead of the actual division of the Black Sea Fleet property.

In order to ensure normal functioning of the main services and naval headquarters, the statement says, it is necessary that all material, technical and other supplies

to the Black Sea Fleet be carried out through the structures of the Ukrainian Navy's Headquarters.

Durdynets, Yarov Attend Sevastopol Naval Parade

LD2707135592 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Text] The headquarters of the Ukraine Naval Forces informed the Novyny radio and television agency that a naval parade and a water-sport festival took place yesterday in Sevastopol in the Southern bay [as heard] to mark Navy Day.

Before the parade, telegrams of congratulation from Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk were read out to sailors.

Present at the festival were: Vasyl Durdynets, first deputy chairman of the Ukrainian Supreme Council; Yuriy Yarov, deputy chairman of the Russian Supreme Soviet; Mykola Bahrov, chairman of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Crimea. No flags of St. Andrew were hoisted on ships of the Black Sea Fleet.

In the evening, festive salvos were fired in the bays of Sevastopol.

Byelarus

Government To Sell 'Surpluses of its Weapons'

OW2707171892 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1635 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Report by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovsky, and Vladimir Shishlin from "Presidential Bulletin"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] "Byelarus will sell only surpluses of its weapons", the first deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Mikhail Myasnikovich, and acting Prime Minister instead of Vyacheslav Kebich who has departed for Zheleznovodsk for rest, said in his exclusive interview with "IF" [INTERFAX].

"The Byelarusian government considers trade in weapons and military equipment only as a means of improving our economic situation", Myasnikovich added.

The first Vice Premier pointed out: "We have no intention to support any regimes and we shall not supply weapons and military equipment to the states which are on the point of a military conflict or where the social-political situation is unstable".

Myasnikovich firmly excludes any trade bargains with nuclear weapons. According to Myasnikovich, this weapons "will be withdrawn from the Byelarusian territory and destroyed in accordance with agreements achieved". Tanks will be destined to trade in the first turn as there are about 3.5 thousand tanks in the republic, thus in 2 thousands exceeding the norm established by the Vienna agreements. The list of commodities to be sold includes engineering equipment, military aircraft. Myasnikovichh has reported that "intensive preparatory work in this direction is underway".

According to "IF", during his visit to Minsk President of Finland Mauno Koivisto was discussing with the Byelarusian leadership a possibility of sale of some military aircraft belonging to the Byelarusian Air Force to this Scandinavian state. Myasnikovich sees "no hindrances on the way to this bargain".

The first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers reported that Byelarus received many military orders from different states and some of them are being fulfilled already. In particular, the Byelarusian experts are introducing the newest systems of air traffic control in Cuba and India. They were ordered not only for the military but civil aviation as well.

"Is it worth in the process of conversion to thoughtlessly melt everything and to radically change the destiny of military industry's professionals?", Myasnikovich asks, and himself gives an answer: "It may occur the same way as it was during the battle with hard drinking in the USSR when the best vineyards of the country were mercilessly annihilated".

The first deputy chairman of the head of the government expressed his dissatisfaction in respect to the Russia's attitude to its obligations on payment for the production of military factories delivered from Byelarus to Russia. He said that Russia has not paid to the Byelarusian military complex 5.5 billion rubles out of its 8-billion debt being promised several months ago.

Defense Chief Comments on Russian Agreement

PM2707135992 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Jul 92 p 3

[Pavel Chernenko and Valeriy Kovalev report: "In the Minister's Opinion"]

[Text] At a news conference devoted to the results of the 20 July Moscow talks, Colonel General Pavel Kozlovskiy, Byelarusian defense minister, stated that the talks which have now ended laid a firm foundation for close cooperation between the two countries' military departments.

Answering journalists' questions, the minister noted that the Treaty on Cooperation in the Defense Sphere signed by the two republics' heads of delegation does not mean that Byelarus has entered a military alliance with Russia. It is not aimed against other countries. Under the treaty the sides will merely coordinate their activity in the military sphere. He said that Byelarus intends to conclude similar treaties with Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Latvia, and other states.

General Pavel Kozlovskiy attaches great importance to the signed treaty on strategic forces temporarily stationed on Byelarusian territory. Because they are under Russian jurisdiction, almost all issues relating to their status, composition, size, financing, and material provision have been removed. The minister also announced that the strategic forces would be withdrawn from the republic over the course of no more than seven years under a timetable which will soon be elaborated and ratified by the two states' governments.

The head of the Byelarusian military department also described as exceptionally important the agreements signed in Moscow on the principles of military-technical backup, the procedure governing the performance of military service, transfers and discharges of servicemen, pension provision for servicemen, and cadre training at military educational establishments. These general principles have now been fleshed out with specific content. He also announced that representatives of the Byelarusian Defense Ministry would be working at the CIS Joint Armed Forces Headquarters with a view to coordinating actions on a permanent basis.

Moldova

Official Says 'Joint Posts' in Bendery Justified

OW2707163392 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1557 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On his arrival to Chisinau the deputy chairman of the Russian commission on emergency situations Vladimir Zhurbenko intends to sign a number of documents defining the settlement process of the Dniester conflict with the representatives of Moldova and Dniester.

The state adviser of the Moldovan President Nicolae Kirtoake told "IF" [INTERFAX] that the agreements which are expected to be signed in Bendery concern the status of the control commission, an interim instruction on principles for creation groups of military supervisors and military contingents, and on providing security during disengagement of the warring sides. Kirtoake said that after the singing of the agreement "Russian military contingents will immediately arrive by air" to the security zone on the conflict line.

The state adviser recognized that the Moldovan leadership "had made a politically risky step" when it agreed to create together with the 14th Russian Army joint posts in Bendery which have completely blocked the city, but according to Kirtoake, this risk has justified itself. Armed clashes have been practically stopped in Bendery, the channels for supplying weapons to the city have been closed. Kirtoake noted that "everybody has understood that tough measures will be undertaken in respect to those who will violate an agreement signed by Boris Yeltsin and Mircea Snegur".

Bendery, Dubossary Declared 'Disaster Area'

LD2707193892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1548 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Text] Moscow July 27 TASS—The cities of Bendery and Dubossary, as well as some other populated localities in the Dniester Region, which suffered as a result of combat actions, are declared the disaster area. A considerable part of the economic potential, social structure and the available housing space have been destroyed, a resolution of the Supreme Soviet of the non-recognized Dniester Moldovan Republic says, according to a non-staff ITAR-TASS correspondent from Tiraspol.

The Supreme Soviet of the Dniester Moldovan Republic appealed to parliaments and governments of Russia, Ukraine and other Commonwealth countries and foreign states to render financial, material and other aid in the restoration of destroyed cities and villages.

Cease-Fire Violation in Bendery 27 Jul

LD2807095592 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0700 GMT 28 Jul 92

[Report by correspondent Gennadiy Varfolomeyev in Tiraspol]

[Text] On 27 July, Russian members of the quadripartite commission arrived in Bendery. On the same day, the commission got down to work. Despite this, Bendery was subjected to fire from mortars, grenade launchers, and Lazan rockets from territory held by the Moldovan Armed Forces from 2120 [1720 GMT] on 27 July to 0300 on 28 July. One person was killed and two injured.

At a 27 July meeting, the quadripartite monitoring commission was unable to agree on where to deploy troop contingents. Moldova is holding out in favor of its proposals on their deployment. On the morning of 28 July, the members of the Moldovan delegation left for Chisinau to consult with President Mircea Snegur. At 1200 today the quadripartite monitoring commission will continue its work. Meanwhile, 49 transport aircraft and six battalions of peacekeeping troops of the Russian Army are at airfields in Russia and waiting for the go-ahead from Moldova to carry out their mission in accordance with the agreement achieved in Moscow.

Snegur on Not Allowing 'Imperialist Regime'

OW2707181392 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1635 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Report by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovsky, and Vladimir Shishlin from "Presidential Bulletin"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] President Mircea Snegur managed to persuade a group of Moldova volunteers to end a political hunger strike in order to topple the cabinet of Andrey Sangeli and bring back the dismissed defense and national security ministers.

Speaking with the hunger strikers, the president guaranteed that the republican leaders would not permit conservative revenge-seeking forces to restore an imperialist regime in Moldova. The president supported the idea of a separate unit of volunteers including the best defenders of national independence and integrity. Snegur also noted that within a week, on the basis of a decree he had signed, the government will work out measures for the social protection of the participants in the fighting in Dniester. He emphasized that the agreement with Russia on a peaceful end to the conflict in Dniester provides protection against any aggression.

Snegur also guaranteed that the hunger strikers will not be put on trial.

IF [INTERFAX] Note: The republican procurator's office filed several lawsuits in connection with yesterday's efforts by a group of armed servicemen and volunteers of Moldova who sought to stage a riot in Chisinau to oust Snegur and Sangeli.

Snegur told the press that "extremists on the right and left must heed the fact that they cannot change the popular will." He expressed the hope for an early return of Left-Bank parliamentarians to the parliament for an active participation in ensuring a peaceful end to the conflict in the area.

IF Note: Appearing Friday on national TV and radio, the president described the Russian-Moldovan agreement as a document meeting vital interests of the country. The main

accomplishment is that the agreement "crosses out any designed to partition Moldova, provides for lifting the economic blockade, helps refugees to return and provides for respect for human and minorities rights, and the withdrawal of the 14th army." According to Snegur, "there are forces that resist the peace process. They may be described as the war party." In this context he mentions the "extremist wing of the Christian-Democratic Popular Front" which, the president says, even earlier used all means to continue the bloodshed. The front's statement which describes the agreement with Russia as treason, Snegur callled "a support of seperatism, an attempt to confuse the people." These forces "in effect make common front with Moscow's national-fascists." "If we give in to emotions, if we take the road of bloodshed, the civilized community will turn its back on us. This would mean nothing other than our inability to build a free and independent state," emphasized the president.

People's Front Rejects Country's 'New Course'

PM2707152792 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Jul 92 Morning Edition pp 1,2

[Svetlana Gamova and Eduard Kondratov report: "Moldova: Front Line Shifts to Parliament"]

[Text] Chisinau—Mircea Snegur's attempts to form a coalition government have not as yet been successful. During the voting, one deputy after the other rejected the nominations of ministers proposed by Prime Minister Andrey Sangeli.

It is a long time since such a drastic difference of political opinion has manifested itself in the parliament as it has now, when the shooting on the banks of the Dniester has begun to abate. Snegur only had to affix his signature to an agreement with Russia in Moscow settling the conflict in the Dniester Region and the majority—some devoutly, some grudgingly—who used to support the president "who is restoring proper order" just fell apart. The Christian-Democratic People's Front [CDPF] faction, which is by no means as influential and large as it was a year or two ago, does not hide its rejection of Moldova's new course. The CDPF is not interested in accord with the Dniester Region or in strengthening friendship with Russia and the CIS countries; all its thoughts and hopes are pinned on Romania. Mircea Druc, leader of the CDPF is not to be seen in parliament, he is busy with the election campaign across the Prut: He has been nominated a Romanian presidential candidate. The CDPF executive committee has announced its intention of getting its candidates into the neighboring country's parliament although how these elections will be held remains a mystery.

The blatantly pro-Romanian stance espoused by the CDPF and the opposition's ostentatious aggression are aggravating the confrontation among parliamentary forces. The centrist majority, the core of which is made up of agrarian deputies, is not hiding its intention of using any excuse to rebuff the "war party" that is destabilizing the situation in the republic. It is no coincidence that on Thursday the session opened with a statement from Deputy N. Andronik, warning the parliament of the danger of a coup d'etat. He thinks that the "third force" thwarting a truce is manifesting itself not only by provocative shooting, but also with provocative accusations of treachery leveled at the Moldovan leadership, which has taken a step toward peace. The CDPF statement regarding the persecution of the movement's activists that has allegedly begun in Moldova causing the front to be forced to guard its leaders was bound to make an impression on deputies, but it has no intention of answering for the consequences.

It was in that situation that the candidacies of the ministers proposed by the president and prime minister were voted upon with virtually no discussion. The third one on the list—Transport Minister V. Kozlov—came a cropper. His candidacy came under massive fire from the CDPF trenches. Moreover, they tried to bring up all manner of things—his trip abroad, new apartment, and lack of visual propaganda in Romanian, but an unequivocal view was taken of this attack: National radicals are obstructing a Russian in order to undermine the already rickety foundations of parliamentary accord. Although the president intervened and described the front's attack as provocation and the "prime minister urged deputies 'not to play to the gallery,'" passions burned still hotter. The enforced recess did not cool them down: After Kozlov had been bombed having failed to receive the requisite number of votes, six of the seven proposed ministerial candidates in a row were rejected.

When it became clear that it would not be possible to create a government of accord at a stroke, CDPF deputies began operating audaciously. They laid down a tough condition: If the parliament wants to make ministers of representatives from the Dniester Region, N. Unguryan, minister of culture and religion, and N. Matkash, minister of science and education, who did not get many votes during the voting, must remain members of Sangeli's government—without fail. These are ministers for whom the parliamentary majority nurtures political antipathies, considering them to be the main sources of pro-Romanian ideas in Moldova.

The CDPF faction, by declaring said that it would not vote for anyone at all until Unguryan and Matkash are confirmed, has put parliament in a critical position.

Kazakhstan

Republic Becomes Member of World Bank

LD2407195292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1805 GMT 24 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Pavel Vanichkin]

[Text] Washington July 24 TASS—The Republic of Kazakhstan has joined the World Bank. The bank press-release today says Kazakhstan has become a member of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development [IBRD], the main branch of this international financial institution and the International Development Association [IDA] which extends easier credits than the IBRD to the world's poorest countries. Kazakhstan is the fifth ex-Soviet republic that has joined the World Bank. It is the IBRD's 163rd and the IDA's 143rd member.

Checkpoints Set Up To Prevent Harvest Exports

LD2407140892 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0500 GMT 24 Jul 92

[Text] The Kazakh Ministry of Internal Affairs has adopted a resolution, according to which, around 50 checkpoints will be set up on the borders of the southern regions of Kazakhstan in order to battle against the illegal export of the harvest outside the republic.

Tereshchenko on Fuel Deliveries During Harvest

OW2407181292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1625 GMT 24 Jul 92

[Prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin and edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Kazakhstan premier Sergey Tereshchenko who is in charge of an emergency commission for agriculture sent a government cable to heads of the regional administrations in which he warns the executives that gasoline delivery schedule cannot be upset during harvesting.

IF [INTERFAX] learned that from the Kazakh cabinet of ministers on Friday [24 July]. Tereshchenko charged the directors of the Alma-Ata, Tselinograd and West Kazakhstan railroads with sending tank cars to oil facilities on a 24-hour a day basis. Kanefteproduct concern chairman Victor Denisov was asked to personally monitor the daily distribution of fuel and to send executives to Russian facilities to organize the shipment of oil products.

The cable says that Transport Ministers Nurlan Isingarin is personally responsible for the timely deliveries of fuel. A railroad executive who allowed the shipment schedule to be upset may be dismissed.

Internal Affairs Minister Discusses Law, Order

LD2407172892 Alma-Ata Kazakh Radio Network in Russian 1400 GMT 24 Jul 92

[Text] Internal Affairs Minister Shumov and other newly appointed officials of the department held their first news conference on 22 July. Analysis of a complex of measures to combat crime and to intensify law and order in the first six months of 1992 became the main subject of the conversation with journalists. It was noted that the republic's criminal situation still remains complicated. At the same time it was stressed at the news conference that on the whole, a stable tendency has been outlined to reduce crimes. The number of solved crimes involving grave body injuries, rape, theft of state property, and hooliganism has increased. Journalists were interested in the following question: The law on the internal affairs bodies in the Republic of Kazakhstan allows various organizations and [word indistinct] to finance the department—will it not serve as a basis for new corruption? Shumov assured the journalists that it is simply impossible. He substantiated his confidence by the fact that these means would be received by the fund under the directorate for combating organized crime and not by the ministry. The organizers of the news conference answered numerous questions by the media.

Russia's Shokhin Leads Delegation to Alma-Ata

LD2407123992 Alma-Ata Kazakh Radio Network in Russian 1400 GMT 23 Jul 92

[Text] A Russian Federation government delegation headed by Vice Premier Shokhin visited Alma-Ata from 22-23 July. During the talks that took place, which were conducted on the Kazakh side by First Deputy Prime Ministers (?Sembayev) and (?Shoshkovets), there was a frank and cordial exchange of views on a broad range of questions of mutual interest.

In particular, the talks considered the implementation of the accords Kazakhstan and Russia reached on 23 March 1991 in Uralsk. It was noted that the accords have added a new quality to Kazakh-Russian relations. Now another step forward needs to be taken to take better advantage of the possibilities for the further development of mutually beneficial and equal interstate ties. The signing of a number of important agreements envisaging deepening integration of the two republics' economies, expansion of cooperation in trade, economics, military, political, and other spheres is a practical expression of this.

A joint group has been set up to give practical help to the agro-industrial complexes of Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation in bringing in the harvest.

A communique was adopted on the results of the meeting.

After the talks, the Russian delegation left for Ashgabat.

Republic Wants Unified Monetary System in CIS

LD2307145792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1431 GMT 23 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS]

[Text] Moscow July 23—Kazakhstan declares for a common economic space and for a unified monetary system in the Commonwealth, according to Galym Baynazarov, chairman of Kazakhstan's State Bank.

Bainazarov told the weekly "BUSINESS AND BANKS" published by the Moscow Central Stock Exchange on Thursday [23 July] that Kazakhstan's banking system is now being modernised. Electronic mail of the state bank will go into operation in July.

An agreement on a project of complex automatic banking system in Kazakhstan is being drafted with the German Siemens-Nixdorf company. It envisages the creation of a telecommunications network. It now takes seven days on average for settling accounts between banks in Kazakhstan. After the new network goes into operation, it will take from one to three days, and later several seconds.

The head of the state bank of Kazakhstan said that the republic is creating its own gold reserve. Kazakhstan has considerable resources of precious metals. It accounts for about six per cent of the output of gold and nearly two thirds of the output of silver in the former USSR.

Tajikistan

Khorug City Talks Yield Cease-Fire Agreement

OW2707141192 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1300 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In Tajikistan, government ministers, the leaders of the principal political parties, Muslim clergy, and Interior Ministry and army officers have started negotiations in Khorog on the settlement of the conflict in the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Region.

The participants in the discussion also include the chiefs of the administrations of Kulyab and Kurgan-Tyube regions, in which armed clashes took place a month ago between different political groups, and commanders of illegal armed detachments coming under no political party.

The results of the talks are still unknown, but observers see them as an important step towards peace in the republic.

Text Noted, Agreement Signed

LD2707184392 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1400 GMT 27 Jul 92

["Text" of "Agreement on Reconciliation" signed in Khorug City on 26 July—from "Special News bulletin"]

[Text] We—the leaders and representatives of parties and political organizations; representatives of the (?spiritual board); leaders of the armed groups; chairmen of the executive committees of the Leninabad Oblast and of Kurgan-Tyube, Kulyab, the Autonomous Republic of Badakhshan, Dushanbe, the rayons [word indistinct] of the republic, the Federation of Trade Unions [words indistinct]—with the participation of the leaders of the republic [words indistinct] state that today the situation of the Republic of Tajikistan [words indistinct] the destruction of the Tajik statehood, which has cultured and civilized people. Taking this into consideration with a full sense of responsibility, we declare that the conditions of this agreement will be implemented after the signing:

1. Beginning at 1000 on 28 July 1992, a general cease-fire will be declared throughout the territory of the Republic of Tajikistan. (?All sides promise) to observe the conditions of this cease-fire in a serious manner.

2. All armed formations will stop taking hostages immediately; in line with this agreement, they are duty bound to release all hostages within 24 hours and return them to their place of residence. If there is further hostage-taking, the guilty will be punished according to the law.

3. Under the supervision of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Committee for National Security, by 1800 on 28 July armed groups should remove all their weapons from roads and from state institutions, hand in their weapons, vacate all occupied buildings, and return motor vehicles to their owners.

4. The leaders of the parties and political organizations; the executive committees of the oblasts, the city of Dushanbe, cities and rayons; leaders of the armed groups; and departments of the Spiritual Board of the republic give their assurance that after the signing of the agreement they will hand over their [word indistinct] (?weapons) within three days according to procedures agreed on.

5. After the signing of this agreement, the executive committees of the oblasts, the city of Dushanbe, and cities and rayons will declare void the previously adopted instructions for forming armed groupings and of [words indistinct]. The [word indistinct] of the republic will supervise the implementation of this agreement.

6. Individuals and self-created groups which are in possession of firearms, ammunition [words indistinct] of their weapons should hand them over to the weapons collection centers of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and National Security by 1000 on (?3) August 1992.

7. We, the participants in the talks, state that the weapons in the hands of those who have received them under the instructions of the executive committees and also in the hands of individuals and self-created groups [words indistinct], and therefore it is necessary that the weapons be handed over in two stages.

First stage: The weapons in the possession of armed formations answerable to the executive committees are to be handed over to the allocated weapons collection points by 3 August 1992 under the supervision of the special commission. In line with the presidential decree, people in this category will not face criminal proceedings.

Second stage: Regarding armed groups and individuals who do not hand over the weapons by the 3 August deadline, special forces will be used to confiscate the arms immediately. People in this category will face criminal proceedings according to law.

8. In order to put an end to mistrust between the opposing sides and insure that arms are handed in, the [words indistinct] of parties, political organizations, state institutions, (?schools), the Federation of Trade Unions, and youth organizations will form special joint (?commissions) of the republic, oblasts, cities, and rayons; representatives from the armed formations can participate in them as (?observers).

9. To guarantee the security of the residents of the Kurgan-Tyube and Kulyab Oblasts and the (Kopernikhonskiy) Rayon [word indistinct], with the assistance of the workers of the Committee for National Security and the Ministry for Internal Affairs, using military hardware, with effect from 30 July 1992 [word indistinct] additional (?posts) should be formed in [word indistinct] of Kulyab-Kurgan-Tyube, Kulyab-Dushanbe and the (?enterprises) in the Pyandzhskiy Rayon, [words indistinct].

10. The border forces, working together with the government bodies and law and order organs, should take the necessary measures to strengthen the borders. They should stop the bringing in of weapons from outside the borders of the republic; henceforward, individuals who bring in weapons from outside the borders of the republic will face criminal proceedings in accordance with the law and will not be pardoned.

11. It should be proposed to Rakhmon Nabiyevich Nabiyev that he immediately adopt a pardon decree to relieve from legal proceedings those who have left Tajikistan and wish to return.

12. Leaders of parties and political organizations, the Spiritual Board, executive committees of the oblasts, the city of Dushanbe, and cities and rayons must not resort to force to deal with political struggles. They are duty bound to implement their policies within the framework of democracy and [word indistinct], taking into consideration the existing Constitution of the Republic of Tajikistan.

13. The Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and the law and order bodies assure those individuals who were forced to leave their homes due to the armed (?conflicts) that they will be provided immediately with material and economic assistance in returning to their former places of residence. The leaders of the parties and political organizations and the local governments guarantee that those who have returned to their former places of residence will not face any pressure or (?provocation).

14. The Government of the Republic of Tajikistan will use the mass media to bring the details of this agreement to the population and the [words indistinct] processes, peace, and [words indistinct]

15. The government of the republic should be asked to ensure that weapons from individuals who have obtained them for their personal security should be purchased at defined prices, at the proposal of the commission created for the collection of weapons.

16. If this agreement is not implemented by parties, political parties, leaders of the armed formations, individuals, and local administrative organs, serious measures should be taken to deal with them and the organs of law and order should use force against them.

This agreement will come into effect on signing. It was signed in the city of Khorug on 27 July 1992.

Nabiyev 'Inactivity' Criticized

LD2807105192 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 0007 GMT 28 Jul 92

[Text] [Announcer] The participants of the agreement [on reconciliation] have accused President Rakhmon Nabiyev of inactivity and have demanded his resignation. We now give you the content of the declaration as reported by our correspondent from Khorug City.

[Correspondent] Declaration: We, the participants of the talks on 27 July 1992 in Khorug City, taking into consideration the complex political and economic situation of the republic and the feeling of inactivity with respect to the condition of the people of Tajikistan and in support of an end to gatherings and fratricidal killings, for independence, the unity of Tajikistan and its future, and the signing of the agreement, have succeeded in achieving a comprehensive cease-fire, disarmament, end to hostage taking, and the pardoning of all participants in the latest tragedies. This agreement has been achieved unanimously as a result of long fights by all parties, organizations, various formations, and representatives of the government of the republic with the participation of the heads of the executive committees of the oblasts and [word indistinct] of the republic.

The absence of the president in these talks is another sign of his indifference to the situation in the republic, his inactivity with respect to preventing bloodshed, and his [word indistinct] indifference to the (?current) situation where the blood of the innocent is being shed, which has worried all the sides who participated in the talks. Such an action by the president of the republic can destroy all our (?efforts). It seems that the president should be (?responsible) for the shedding of the people's blood. No action has been taken by the president to stop the bloodshed, and he has not even expressed condolences and sympathy for the families of those killed lately in

Kulyab and Kurgan-Tyube oblasts. He has not yet officially recognized the courageous and peaceful accords achieved by Davlat Khudonazarov. The relation of the president to his [words indistinct], ignoring the presidential oath, has [word indistinct] the participants of the Khorug talks and obliges us, with a responsibility to the people, to declare no confidence in him. We expect the people of the republic to support our appeal.

Armed Conflicts Continue

LD2807092892 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 0007 GMT 28 Jul 92

[Text] Since yesterday, there have been conflicts between armed persons again. [Words indistinct] of Bakhtarskiy Rayon where [words indistinct] heavy firing started between the sides and it continued all day yesterday. According to observers in Kurgan-Tyube Oblast, a number of people were killed or wounded as a result of these conflicts. Among them were two (?militia) workers.

According to our reporter, a gathering was organized yesterday in front of the Kurgan Tyube Oblast executive committee that lasted until late into the evening and in which more than 1,000 people participated. Those present demanded that CIS servicemen not interfere in the internal affairs of our republic and that Rakhmon Nabiyev, who has lost the trust of the people and currently does not show any sign of taking action for a cease-fire, must resign.

According to the latest reports, the firing has currently died down and the situation is under the supervision of [word indistinct].

Switzerland To Pay IBRD, IMF Entrance Fees

OW2707193992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1826 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Swiss Government is ready to pay the entrance fee for Tajikistan to join, in the near future, the international financial organisations IBRD [International Bank for Reconstruction and Development] and IMF. This was authorised by a joint memorandum signed by the Swiss and Tajik governments in Dushanbe on Sunday [26 July].

A delegation from Bern, on a one-day visit to Dushanbe, has been studying the possibilities for granting economic aid and has indicated its preparedness to commence accordingly.

The head of the delegation of ministers, Daniel Kaiser, has presented Rakhmon Nabiyev, President of Tajikistan, an official invitation to visit Switzerland.

Vice Prime Minister Notes Refugee Situation

LD2507050792 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1242 GMT 24 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Gridneva]

[Text] Dushanbe, 24 Jul— "The Government of Tajikistan is doing everything in its power to bring back the refugees, including those of Uzbek nationality, who left their homes during the civil strife in the southern areas of the Republic and found temporary refuge in the border areas of Tajikistan," Deputy Prime Minister Davlat Usmon said today at a briefing on the problem of Uzbek refugees, which has been caused by an unstable sociopolitical situation in the Republic.

The deputy prime minister pointed out that according to Tajik statistical data, there are about 20,000 Uzbek people who were forced to resettle, while the authorities in Tashkent believe the figure should be at least three times higher. Without delving into a scholastic discussion of this matter, Davlat Usmon said, the problem does indeed exist and the government of the Republic is sincerely concerned about the very fact that people of related blood, culture, and religion, who have lived peacefully side by side for hundreds of years, have suddenly encountered mistrust and enmity. Fortunately, over the last few days the exodus of the Uzbek population from the conflict area has stopped. Moreover, the first thousands of families have returned home. Representatives of the Tajik leadership, political parties, and movements are in the regions where the refugees are mainly concentrated—Syrdarya, Surkhandarya, and Dzhizak Oblasts. They are explaining the situation to the people who have been forced to resettle and are guaranteeing that the Tajik Government will pay for their return home.

At the same time, the Tajik deputy prime minister categorically denied claims by a number of Uzbek journalists that the exodus of their fellow nationals from the Republic has allegedly been caused by an anti-Uzbek campaign unleashed in some media due to provocative speeches by certain Tajik leaders who keep scaring their fellow tribesmen [soplemenniki] with the advance of pan-Turkism in the only Persian-speaking republic in Central Asia.

Tajikistan's leadership and all the people making up the sensible section of society, he continued, are for friendship between nations and for neighborly relations between representatives of all nationalities living on Tajik soil. They condemn those extremely nationalist individual pronouncements, which have nothing to do with the national policy of the sovereign Republic of Tajikistan.

Uzbekistan

New Decree Abolishes Taxes on All Imports

OW2707105292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0945 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] By President Islam Karimov's decree, Uzbekistan abolishes taxes on all imports, food included, as of August 1st, 1992 and through January 1st, 1994.

Foreign entrepeneurs in Uzbekistan are allowed to trade in imports for rubles and currency and to purchase on a competitive basis and exclusively for investment purposes industrial premises, equipment, and housing.

The Central Bank has been instructed to introduce in Uzbekistan as of August 15th, 1992 a single list of the foreign currencies rates of exchange on the basis of the world monetary markets's exchange rates for all types of transactions.

The cabinet has been asked to endorse within one month a list of licensed exports and imports, define quotas for the sale through stock exchanges of licensed goods for their subsequent export.

A program of investment is planned to be worked out and published in Uzbekistan within two months. Part of the revenue, reinvested in the expansion of production, in technological modernization, and in social programs implementation is exampted from taxation. The income of enterprises, funding the projects, listed in the program of investment, is not taxed for 5 years.

There is a 10 percent tax to be levied on the profit transferred by a foreign investor abroad. A national insurance fund is being set up to guarantee foreign investments in Uzbekistan.

Government To Subsidize Medicine Prices

OW2507131992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1218 GMT 25 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Uzbek cabinet has decided to allocate in its budget rb [ruble] 250 mn [million] to subsidize the discrepancy between the wholesale and retail prices for pharmaceutics. This is made necessary by CIS producers who supply the republic with medicines at prices that people cannot afford. Ceilings have been fixed on 130 preparations, such as cardiac, hormonal, antibiotic, and anti-fever pills.

To solve the problem imports have been suggested from Hungary, Turkey, India. Talks are in train for purchases from Italy, Germany, and Bulgaria.

Uzbek Civilian Pilots To Work in PRC

LD2707084292 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0430 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Excerpt] Another plane has arrived in Beijing from Xinjiang on the scheduled Urumqi-Beijing route. The unusual thing is that this is the first time that China's civil airlines have leased a foreign plane along with its entire crew. Details from Mayak's correspondent in Beijing, Vladimir Kulikov:

[Kulikov] Two passenger planes of the Tashkent air company will work internal Chinese routes and pilots from Uzbekistan will carry passengers in the PRC. This small fact reflects the new nature of relations between China and its neighbors, the states of the former Union. [passage omitted]

Newspapers Criticize Former Speaker Nishanov

OW2507132692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1218 GMT 25 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Two of the central Uzbek newspapers—OZBEKISTON OVOZI and PRAVDA VOSTOKA—carry articles today describing Rafik Nishanov, the former speaker of the USSR Supreme Soviet's Nationalities Chamber, as the chief patron of the notorious "Uzbek court case".

They accuse Rafik Nishanov of linking all his activities as the 1st Secretary of the Uzbek Communist Central Committee since 1988 with the exposal of "Rashidov's practices" and "cotton manipulation", and with the replacement of the old cadres. "The fate of 20 million people was in the hands of a tractable politician who had no principles or personal opinion and was incapable of real leadership". The authors criticize him for giving every support to officials sent to the republic from the centre, particularly the investigators' group led by Gdlyan and Ivanov. They demand that Nishanov, Gdlyan and Ivanov and their followers should be summoned to Uzbekistan to be put on trial "according to the Uzbek constitution and the local laws".

Armenia

Karabakh Reports Continued Shelling

LD2407112892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1054 GMT 24 Jul 92

[By ARMENPRESS correspondent Aleksandr Grigoryan—TASS]

[Text] Yerevan July 24 TASS—Azeri forces continue incessant shelling of Armenian villages, the Karabakh news agency reported. Two dozen shells were fired at the town of Martuni on Thursday [23 July]. One man was killed and damage caused. Rocket launchers were used to shell the village of Norshen. Casualties were reported.

Armenian units continue offensive in the north of Karabakh. On Friday [24 July] they initiated attacks on the settlements of Magavuz, Mokhratang and Metshen to seize them from Azeri forces.

The Armenian Defence Ministry said the village of Eraskh was shelled from the territory of Nakhichevan on Friday. Concentration of Azeri armoured vehicles in Nakhichevan areas bordering on Armenia was registered, it added.

Fighting, 'Enemy' Massing Troops Reported

NC2707152492 Yerevan Radio Yerevan in Azeri 1330 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Excerpts] Dear listeners: We now present a report on the recent developments in the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR] and on Armenia's border with Azerbaijan:

Uninterrupted combat operations are taking place in Nagorno-Karabakh; however, the number of attacks and raids noticeably decreased in the past few days. The Azerbaijani side is frequently firing on positions held by the Armenian self-defense forces and on Armenian residential areas. The Armenian side is trying to silence the enemy firing positions and evict the enemy units from the areas they have occupied in Mardakertskiy [Agdere] Rayon. Clashes are taking place close to (Metshen), Magavuz, and Mokhratak in Mardakertskiy Rayon. The Armenian side is trying to silence the enemy's firing positions and further the counterattack it launched a few days ago. Nothing changed much today in Mardakertskiy Rayon. Clashes between the two sides are continuing. We have not yet received accurate information on the number of casualties.

Baku Radio claimed today that Azerbaijani National Army units control the Sarsangsk water reservoir. This report is false. The Armenians control the Sarsangsk water reservoir and a large area around it. The Azerbaijani efforts to occupy this strategically important installation failed. The Azerbaijani attack has been warded off, and dozens of enemy troops were killed or wounded. The aggressors have lost many men.

Tension prevails in the other parts of the battlefront as well. Combat operations are continuing. Azerbaijan National Army units have hit Martuni and several towns in Martuninskiy Rayon from their positions in Amiranlar, [name indistinct], and other towns with intense artillery and Grad rocket fire. The attacks caused damage in Martuni and the other towns. Several people have been wounded. The Armenian self-defense forces took measures to silence the enemy's firing positions.

Martuni, [word indistinct], and Norshen were shelled with artillery units from Agdamskiy Rayon on 26 July. No one was killed or wounded. The Armenian self-defense units returned the fired to silence the enemy positions.

Exchanges of fire also took place in other residential areas in Nagorno-Karabakh. The situation in NKR's other cities and towns remains tense; however, life is returning to normal in some of them. NKR officials are making strenuous efforts to heal the wounds caused by the war, restore the operation of vital installations, and supply power, fuel, provisions, and other commodities to the cities and towns.

Additionally, the refugee issue has come to the forefront. All our resources are being used to help the refugees. The residents of the towns that have been cleared from the Azerbaijani usurpers are preparing to return to their homes. [passage omitted]

We now wish to report on the incidents in Armenia's border rayons during the past day. Azerbaijani National Army units fired on Megri, Goris, Yeraskhavan, Artsvashen, and other Armenian residential areas with various types of arms today. Damage was caused in these residential areas and several peaceful people were either killed or wounded. The Armenian side returned the fire in order to give a deserving reply to the enemy's aggressive activities. The situation in the other parts of Armenia's border with Azerbaijan remains tense. Azerbaijan is massing reinforcements and military hardware in its rayons on Armenia's border.

Attack on Russian Captain 'Adequately' Repulsed

PM2407123592 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Jul 92 p 3

[Report by Konstantin Litvinov and Aleksandr Ivanov under the "Direct Line" rubric: "Attempt By 'Thugs' To Take Officer Hostage Foiled, But Weapons Still Being Stolen"]

[Text] During the night of 20-21 July several unarmed thugs decided to drop in on Captain Vitaliy Atamanyuk, chief of the Yerevan artillery regiment—for a quite obvious purpose—to take the officer hostage and then demand a sizable ransom for his release. But the plotters got the wrong apartment. The woman who answered the knock at the door said that Atamanyuk did not live there and that she knew no one by that name. Suspecting her of deception, the "visitors" kicked up a fuss. The neighbors

came out and a brawl started. The "visitors" finally left, but promised to come back armed.

While they were running around looking for assault rifles, the regiment operations group, along with OMON [special-purpose militia detachment] and militia detachments, were summoned. Some time later the "visitors" returned as promised. The conflict could not be resolved "nicely." During the ensuing skirmish one of the attackers was killed, two were captured, and the rest fled.

The authorities seem to have moved on from avowing their willingness to defend the military's interests to action: The incident that we have described is the only one in the last few months where thugs have been adequately repulsed by the Republic's OMON and militia.

Attacks on troop units and subunits are continuing. Thus, 20 July a group of masked strangers infiltrated the territory of an aviation unit stationed in Vaziani. The upshot of this was that almost two dozen firearms were captured.

Russian Army Major Killed Near Yerevan

OW2707135392 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1300 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russian Army Major Zaytsev was killed Sunday [26 July] by unidentified individuals in the village of Balaovit near Yerevan where an artillery unit is stationed, said Vasiliy Belchenko, Transcaucasian military district intelligence officer, to IF [INTERFAX].

"Though the Armenian leadership assured us that it would find the criminals, no concrete steps are taken," said Belchenko. He reminded that the killers of five Russian servicemen in the village of Gyumri, Armenia, two weeks ago have not been found.

Interior Minister on Arms, Munitions Finds

PM2807102592 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Jul 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Report by correspondent Sergey Bablumyan on interview with Armenian Internal Affairs Minister Vano Siradegyan in Yerevan; date not given: "Weapons Confiscated in Armenia"]

[Text] Yerevan—Armenian law-enforcement agents have carried out an undercover operation and seized a large consignment of weapons and munitions. Republic Interior Minister Vano Siradegyan described some of the details to your IZVESTIYA correspondent.

[Siradegyan] We learned from operational information that a large quantity of weapons was stored in the house of a militiaman living in Armenia's Artashatskiy Rayon. However, what we discovered surpassed all expectations. The house was a veritable arsenal. As far as I am aware, this is the first time such a large consignment of weapons has been seized on a single occasion, not just in Armenia but in the other CIS countries. Twenty-six assault rifles, three medium machine guns, a grenade launcher, 15 pistols, a heavy-caliber SGS machinegun, and 20,000 rounds. All these goods were in their factory packing, although several empty cases were also discovered.

[Bablumyan] Clearly, they also contained weapons, did they not?

[Siradegyan] Yes, I think so. They may already have been sold, since a large amount of money—3.5 million rubles [R]—was seized during the search. However, we cannot rule out that the money was intended to replenish the arsenal.

[Bablumyan] As far as I am aware, several CIS Army officers were taken off a Moscow flight at Yerevan's Zvartnots Airport. Is there any connection between these episodes?

[Siradegyan] The answer to your question can only be given by the investigation. I can only say that $12,430 and R500,000 were discovered on the officers. An assault rifle and two pistols were confiscated from one officer. On 23 July, based on operational information, we carried out a similar operation in the city of Echmiadzin and found another 15 weapons during the search. In the last three days alone we have seized around 80 different combat weapons and R7 million.

Briefing on President's Foreign Engagements

NC2707194792 Yerevan Radio Yerevan International Service in Armenian 1530 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Text] Ruben Shugaryan, the president's press secretary, held a press briefing on 27 July and informed reporters that President Levon Ter-Petrosyan received Iran's charge d'affaires ad interim Ahmad Sobhani last week. The press secretary noted that the talks were held in a sincere atmosphere and stressed that Iran and Armenia have common strategic interests in the region. Sobhani expressed his country's readiness to resume its mediation efforts to solve the Nagorno-Karabakh problem.

Shugaryan informed reporters that President Levon Ter-Petrosyan sent special messages on 25 July to the presidents of Uruguay and Argentina, asking them to get more actively involved in international forums for the peaceful solution of the Nagorno-Karabakh problem.

Shugaryan also said that Armenian presidential adviser Vagan Papazyan held a number of meetings last week with party representatives to create an inter-party advisory body under the president.

The press secretary informed the press that Levon Ter-Petrosyan will visit Athens this week.

Referring to the situation in the regions bordering Azerbaijan, Shugaryan said that the situation is currently tense in Krasnoselskiy Rayon. One person was injured in Megri following shelling from Azerbaijani territory. Relative calm prevails in the other regions.

He added that in response to Turkish Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel's invitation to attend the opening ceremony of the dam built on the Euphrates, Energy and Fuel Minister Sepuh Tashdzhyan and Murat Pochovyan, head of the Turkish Department at the Armenian Foreign Ministry, are in Turkey.

Azerbaijan

Defense Minister Protests President's Decree

OW2407173392 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1625 GMT 24 Jul 92

[By Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin and edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] According to some sources in the parliament, Defense Minister Ragim Gaziyev has protested against President Abulfaz Elchibey's recent decree appointing Rovshan Aliyev, an inspector from the Baku Prosecutor's Office, the Adjutant General of the Republic.

The Defense Minister thinks the decree is a violation of the existing legislation, according to which a candidate for the post of Adjutant General is to be proposed by the Milli-majlis chairman and is then to be approved by the Milli-majlis. Experts agree with Gaziyev but are putting the blame not on the President himself but on his staff, accusing them of "inefficiency."

Defense Minister Attends Flag-Raising Ceremony

OW2707135192 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1300 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Five training mine sweepers of the Caspian military flotilla are now flying Azeri national flags in Baku. The Azeri Defense Minister Ragim Kaziyev said at the flag-raising ceremony that "the republic did not plan to set up a monoethnic armed structure." According to him, the republic's multiethnic military is one of the assets which he plans to preserve.

Defense Ministry Release on Fighting Issued

NC2707183292 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Text] The Azerbaijani Defense Ministry's Analytical Information Center has issued the following:

Although clashes in Agdere Rayon in Yukhary Karabakh [Nagorno-Karabakh] subsided a little in the past two days, the situation became tense today. All the attacks launched by the Armenian units have been obstructed. The enemy's effort to capture the strategically important heights around the Sarsangsk water reservoir have been stopped. Clashes are currently taking place near several residential areas in Agdere Rayon.

Chukhur Mekhle, Akhmedabad, and Khydyrly in Agdamskiy Rayon were hit with artillery and heavy-caliber machine-gun fire from the direction of Askeran and Khanabad last night. Agdam was also hit. Tur in Dzhebrailskiy Rayon and Khasanbulakh in Fizulinskiy Rayon were hit with artillery fire from the former Gadrutskiy Rayon. One soldier was martyred. The Azerbaijani units returned the fire and destroyed an Armenian artillery gun and a KAMAZ vehicle.

Peace has not been established in our republic's border areas. Exchanges of fire, which have become [words indistinct]. The town of Bala Dzhafarli in Kazakhskiy Rayon, of (Duzrasullu) and Mormor in Kedabekskiy Rayon, of Goyebakhan and Tashanly in Tauzskiy Rayon, and of Sadarak in the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic were hit with various types of fire from Armenia last night. Azerbaijani Armed Forces units returned the fire and destroyed the headquarters of the Armenian brigands in Bashkent.

The town of (Sufiyan) in Lachinskiy Rayon was hit with various types of fire from Armenian positions at 0800 today. Four of our soldiers were wounded. The fire was returned and the enemy positions were silenced.

The situation in Zangelanskiy and Akstafa Rayons was peaceful last night and today.

Russian Mediator Comments on Nagorno-Karabakh

LD2807104192 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0100 GMT 28 Jul 92

[Report by correspondent Azer Khalilov]

[Text] Last week, Vladimir Kazimirov, head of the Russian mediatory mission on a settlement of the Karabakh conflict and ambassador-at-large, visited Baku and Nakhichevan.

[Khalilov] In Baku he met the leadership of the Azerbaijan parliament, in particular Chairman Isa Kamberov, and in Nakhichevan he met Geydar Aliyev, chairman of the Supreme Majlis of the Nakhichevan autonomous oblast. Vladimir Kazimirov said the latest Russian plan for a peace settlement envisaged the following two stages: First, reaching specific accords on a complete cease-fire; and second, further settlement of all remaining aspects of the conflict including the questions of establishing security zones and removing various kinds of blockades and other questions.

Concerning this plan put forward by the Russian Foreign Ministry, Isa Kamberov, chairman of the Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet, noted that the proposals of the Russian side will be studied by the republic's leadership in the most serious manner. At the same time, Kamberov stressed that regarding the settlement of the conflict Azerbaijan continues to give priority to the collective mediatory efforts of international organizations, in particular the CSCE.

The Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet head said the mediation of individual states cannot be effective as these states are to some degree or other concerned with the preservation of their own influence in the region.

Azerbaijan Foreign Minister Tofik Gasymov thinks that the Russian Federation Foreign Ministry's package of proposals contains only two points in keeping with international standards and principles. The others, the Azerbaijan foreign minister points out, are not in keeping with international standards and to some degree they are in keeping with the interests of the Armenian side. Therefore they will hardly be able to satisfy the Azerbaijani side.

One way or another, in Karabakh and also in the districts bordering on Armenia, military actions continue. As to what the mediatory mission of the Russian Federation will bring can only be predicted after the Azerbaijan parliament pronounces its verdict after examining proposals of the Russian Internal Affairs Ministry.

Turkish Citizen Appointed to Republic Post

PM2707111592 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Jul 92 Morning Edition p 1

[RIA report carried in "From our Correspondents and News Agencies" column: "Turkish Citizen Appointed Azerbaijan Minister"]

[Text] A Turkish citizen, Camil Unal, has been appointed chairman of the republic's State Land Committee by decree of Azerbaijan President Abulfaz Elchibey.

As learned by the TURAN news agency, other appointments of foreign citizens to ministerial posts in the Azerbaijan Government are intended.

Joint Business Council With Iran Established

NC2407211992 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1900 GMT 23 Jul 92

[Excerpt] The Azerbaijan-Iran Business Council has been established in Azerbaijan in accordance with the 22 July Council of Ministers decision. The council's main task will be to help the Republic's establishments and organizations implement bilateral agreements, contracts, and other documents and improve trade, economic, and humanitarian relations. [passage omitted]

Joint Firm Established With Iran, Ukraine

NC2407212092 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1900 GMT 23 Jul 92

[Text] Azerbaijan, Ukraine, and Iran have established a joint firm which will supply natural gas to our republic. The new firm has been named Iranukrazer. It will work to lay and operate a natural gas pipeline which will link Iran with Western Europe. The new pipeline will be 4,000 km long and cost $12 billion. Azerbaijan will pay only 10 percent of this amount.

Georgia

Talks With CSCE on Replacement of Forces

OW2707162992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1557 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Georgian State Council Chairman Eduard Shevardnadze has not ruled out proposals for the the Georgian side to replace the tripartite peace-making forces based in South Ossetia with European or international ones.

In the course of Monday's [27 July] meeting with the Head of the Conference for Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), the former Belgian Premier, Mark Eyskens, who arrived in Tbilisi the night before, the Georgian leader mentioned that this could take place if peace-making forces would be required in the region for a period of more than 2 or 3 months. Shevardnadze stressed that the forces would be dealing, on the whole, only with the tasks which would be given to them.

Eyskens, who had come to Georgia with the aim of settling the conflict between Georgia and Ossetia, stated that the success of the peace-making forces in South Ossetia would set a precedent for similar efforts to resolve other European conflicts. "Your experience would embody a model which could be put into use all over the continent," he stressed.

More on Shevardnadze Tour of Western Region

OW2707171992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1635 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Report by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovsky, and Vladimir Shishlin from "Presidential Bulletin"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On his return to Tbilisi the chairman of the State Council Eduard Shevardnadze, who was forced to interrupt his tour to the western Georgia due to the decision of the Abkhazian parliament on state independence, declared that he "is not ready to give a political assessment of what has occurred during his tour".

Nevertheless the Georgian leader stressed that as before he is convinced in the justification and necessity of this visit "not taking into consideration everything what we were forced to experience". "Listening to obviously insulting declarations of certain groups of people - mainly women in our address we continued our dialogue", Shevardnadze said. [as received]

The chairman of the State Council recognized that the most difficult meeting was in Tsalendzhikh where for the first time in his life he appeared in front of a crowd of uncontrolled outrageous people.

The first results of this tour have drawn Shevardnadze "to a sad conclusion: the people is morally and psychologically suppressed".

Shevardnadze stated the impossibility of his addressing the people neither in Tsalendzhikh, nor in Zugdidi where the supporters of the ousted president "disrupted his meeting with the public" and noted the relation between the hostile reception performed by Zviadists and the decision of the Abkhazian Supreme Soviet on abolishing the constitution of the Abkhazian Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic dated 1978.

IF [INTERFAX] Note: The State Council has recognized this resolution invalid. It has adopted a political statement qualifying the decision of the Abkhazian Supreme Soviet as unconstitutional and juridically groundless.

"We have no objective information on situation at places. The present political system in Georgia is amorphous and the legal authority does not exert real influence on the population even in half", the chairman of the State Council summarized. He underlined that he will not give up his political course aimed at dialogue and political measures for exercising influence over the population. Shevardnadze believes that forceful methods are unacceptable as they may lead to resurrection of dictatorship.

The session of the State Council was also considering an issue on elections to the Georgian parliament scheduled for October 11. In particular, discussions on just election system were continued. According to the majority of the political parties, the resolution on elections adopted two months ago infringes on their interests and they have put forward an address to grant them a real opportunity to be presented in the supreme legislative body. Shevardnadze's proposal on presenting representatives of all regions in the parliament was met with a stormy reaction. The majority of "party" members of the State Council believes that in this case the number of deputies will be increased from 169 to 260-270 people and the parliament "will lose its mobility".

'Must Continue' Dialogue

LD2707192592 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Announcer-read report over video on visit to Western Georgia by E.A. Shevardnadze, chairman of the Georgian State Council, including recorded remarks by Shevardnadze, place and date not given; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] It is known that Eduard Shevardnadze has interrupted his tour of western Georgia after the Abkhaz parliament made a decision on the state independence of the Republic. Nevertheless, it seems that neither the complex tour nor the decision by the parliamentarians have managed to affect Shevardnadze's preference for peaceful methods of conducting a dialogue.

[Shevardnadze] I have not yet completed this tour. I must make some more trips, hold more meetings, and the most important thing—I must continue a dialogue with all groups and all political forces. I am pleased the dialogue took place. I must organize a similar meeting in Zugdidi itself. Much was said about a kind of separatism in this region. The talk about the so-called Mingrelian separatism is groundless. There is no such thing. There is no such illness. Many speeches were made, both by representatives of political parties, and by independent opposition members, so to speak, and others as well, who insist that elections take place, and who believe that much depends on them. I am pleased with this.

Abkhaz Resolution Seen as 'Separatist'

PM2707142992 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Jul 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Report by Journalist Mikhail Dzhindzhikhavili: "New Seats of Conflict May Emerge in Georgia"]

[Text] Tbilisi—What is already the former Abkhaz Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic will henceforth be officially known as the Republic of Abkhazia.

This was the decision of a 23 July Abkhaz Supreme Soviet session. By decision of that same session the old 1925 Constitution is to be introduced in Abkhazia. What has brought about these steps which many political scientists in Georgia have assessed as separatist?

Vladislav Ardzinba, the Abkhaz parliament speaker, under whose aegis these decisions were adopted, explained it as follows: He said that Georgia renounced the existing 1978 Constitution fairly recently and enacted the 1921 Fundamental Law. It does not feature the Abkhaz Autonomous Republic at all, but Sukhumi Okrug does figure in it, to which fact Tbilisi has responded that the Republic's State Council has abrogated the paragraph of the Constitution which mentions Sukhumi Okrug so as to bring it into line with current realities following the election of a new parliament.

When asked by journalists whether these decisions effectively mean secession from Georgia, the Ardzinba noted that they do not, since the 1925 Constitution says that, having concluded a special agreement, Abkhazia as part of Georgia is part of the Transcaucasian Federation, and he added that he advocates a federative system for Georgia.

The session approved Abkhazia's anthem and flag. But all this took place in the absence of deputies from the Georgian parliamentary faction, who consider these decisions illegal. It must be said that opposition to Ardzinba has developed among Abkhaz deputies also.

In an interview with Georgian Radio on 24 July Tamaz Nadareishvili, first deputy chairman of the Abkhaz Supreme Soviet, said that the change in the name of the Abkhaz Autonomous Republic effectively constitutes a violation of Georgia's territorial rights since it effectively abolishes Abkhaz autonomy.

As for E. Shevardnadze, who is now in Mingrelia, he has not as yet issued an official statement on the Abkhaz

Supreme Soviet decision. As for his trip, in the rayon center of Senaki Zviad Gamsakhurdia's supporters greeted Shevardnadze with stones and insults. The hysteria among Gamsakhurdia's supporters reached such a pitch that the heart of one man standing on the square in front of the theater gave out and he died.

It was only under heavy guard that Shevardnadze and the members of the State Council escorting him were able to enter the theater, where they were to meet with the rayon aktiv. Then something incredible happened—Eduard Shevardnadze went up to the ex-president's supporters without any guards and began talking to them. The main complaints that they aired with the chairman of the Georgian State Council concerned the fact that the legally elected president was overthrown by force and terror unleashed against his supporters, as well as by "Mkhedrioni" formations against the people of Mingrelia. During the meeting with the rayon aktiv that went ahead nonetheless, Shevardnadze stressed that the main thing now is to prevent the breakup of Georgia.

Abkhazia Rejects Verdict

OW2707163192 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1557 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Abkhazia is rejecting the Georgian State Council verdict invalidating the decision to bring the 1925 Constitution into effect in Abkhazia. On Monday [27 July], the parliamentary press service stated that the Georgian State Council's reaction to Abkhazia's decision is illegal.

In Tbilisi, the State Council stressed that the 1925 Abkhazian Constitution was never actually passed and existed only in a draft version which had to be brought in line with the Georgian Constitution of the day. Moreover, Georgian members of parliament did not vote on the issue.

Abkhazia alleges that the decision was also influenced by Georgia's silent response to "urgent motions" at the start of talks deciding legal relations. At a press conference in Sukhumi on Monday, members of the Abkhazian Supreme Council stated that the Abkhazian people is fighting for its rights and that this process must be allowed to continue.

The Abkhazian Deputy Internal Affairs Minister, Ilya Narmaniya, told us that the situation in Abkhazia is, on the whole, calm after the downturn in relations between Sukhumi and Tbilisi. Neither the Abkhazian nor the Georgian population is organising meetings or taking any other action in response to the politicians' decisions.

Faction Opposes Autonomy

LD2507213292 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1900 GMT 25 Jul 92

[Text] On Saturday [25 July], the Democratic Abkhazia deputies faction, which mainly consists of Georgian deputies, condemned the resolution of the Abkhaz Supreme Soviet to end the autonomous status of the republic and to restore the 1925 Constitution. The resolution was passed in the absence of the Georgian deputies who are boycotting the work of the Abkhazian parliament. Democratic Abkhazia appealed to the Sukhumi parliament to change the decision it adopted, for the sake of the future and of preserving brotherly relations between the Georgian and Abkhaz people. The deputies' faction reserved its right to defend the legal rights of the non-Abkhaz majority of the republic's population proceeding from international legal standards.

Meanwhile, (Avtandil Tskhitishvili), head of the Georgian Army General Staff, stated in Tbilisi that it is necessary to have a constructive dialogue with the Abkhaz leadership both on military and political problems. According to him, until these problems are settled, units of the national guard, subordinate to the Georgian Defense Ministry, will be stationed on Abkhaz territory.

Estonia

Armed Clash With Russian Servicemen Reported

Estonians Accused

LD2707164292 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1535 GMT 27 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Ostanin]

[Excerpt] Moscow, 27 Jul—An armed incident occurred between Russian and Estonian servicemen in Estonia this morning, according to a report made to the ITAR-TASS correspondent at the press group of the CIS Navy. This was caused by the seizure by a group of 30 Estonian servicemen of a building belonging to a subunit of the Baltic Fleet.

Forty servicemen from the Tallinn naval base, under the supervision of Captain First-Class V. Gay, were sent to find out the reason for the attack and ascertain the affiliation of the armed attackers. During their attempt to enter the premises, the sailors were fired upon with automatic weapons. In the course of the exchange of fire Captain First-Class Gay, along with a civilian official taken hostage by the Estonian servicemen, were seriously wounded. The sailors drove out the raiders and arrested 24 Estonian servicemen. At the moment, talks regarding the incident are under way between the Estonian deputy minister of defense and the leadership of the Tallinn naval base. [passage ommited]

Russians Accussed

LD2807150192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1431 GMT 28 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Albert Maloveryan]

[Text] Tallinn July 28 TASS—Russian seamen and marines opened fire without warning and broke into the territory occupied by Estonian guards, disarmed them and injured them, Estonian Defence Minister Ulo Uluots said on Tuesday [28 July], commenting on the armed incident in Tallinn on Monday.

Forty servicemen led by Captain First Rank Valeriy Gay of the Tallinn naval base were sent to investigate. The marines were met with automatic gun fire at the door. During the ensuing shoot-out, Captain Gay and a civilian taken hostage by the Estonians were gravely wounded. The marines then launched an assault to throw the occupants out of the building, capturing 24 Estonians.

The Estonian newspaper KAHVA HAAL described the incident as a provocation to "mark the Navy Day which was celebrated on the previous day."

The territory "invaded" by the marines is a Baltic Fleet motor pool, part of which is being leased by the joint stock society Fonon. At 10:00 on Tuesday, Estonian guards occupied the pool under the pretext of "thwarting the sale of military hardware." Under the Estonian law, all military hardware in the republic is under Estonia's control since January 1992 and any sale or leasing of real estate or other property that belonged to the Russian Army is illegal.

The shooting began after about 50 Russian marines arrived in the pool in an attempt to drive the Estonians out. As a result, one Russian officer and a Fonon employee were wounded.

According to the commander of the Estonian guards, Rein Eenmaa, his men were armed with six sub-machine guns without magazines. "Our men did not fire a single shot because they did not have ammunition," Uluots said.

However, the newspaper PAEVALEHT published a witness report by one of the pool employee, Nikolay Kryuchkov, who said that when the Russian seamen arrived, two Estonian soldiers guarding the gates dropped the guns, while a third one opened fire. Later he was disarmed by marines.

By 16:00 both Russian and Estonian troops had left the pool, the newspaper said.

Russian Defense Ministry Protests

LD2707164992 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1558 GMT 27 Jul 92

[by ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Ostanin]

[Text] Moscow, 27 Jul—Russia's Ministry of Defense today protested to the Estonian authorities about the armed attack by Estonian servicemen against a military construction detachment of the Baltic Fleet, your ITAR-TASS correspondent was informed at the Ministry of Defense press center.

It is thought here that the attack on the detachment was carried out with the aim of seizing property and construction equipment belonging to the Fleet. The illegal actions against Russian servicemen were curtailed by the measures adopted by the command of the Baltic Fleet. After negotiations, the naval sailors this evening freed all of the arrested raiders.

Uluots Denies Allegations

OW2807135392 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1257 GMT 28 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Estonia's Defence Minister Ulo Uluots has qualified the Russian military's allegations that "fire was opened by the Estonian side" as a "groundless provocation". In comments on the incident between Estonian and Russian military men which occurred in the compound of the Tallinn garrison's construction department U. Uluots pointed out that the Estonian servicemen had

no cartridges. Therefore the Russian military's allegations that the Estonian servicemen wounded two persons are groundless, said Estonia's Defence Minister.

In the meantime Admiral Anatoliy Gavrilov, deputy chief of the Tallinn garrison, told BF [BALTFAX] he has documents to prove that his assistant was wounded.

On Monday [27 July] Estonian servicemen took the construction department of the Tallinn garrison under their own control on the grounds that Estonia wanted to prevent military property from being sold out. In the fire exchange between Estonian and Russian servicemen Captain Vyacheslav Gai and construction worker Tkachenko were wounded.

'Arbitrary Actions' Condemned

LD2807153992 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 0900 GMT 28 Jul 92

[Text] ETA informs us that in connection with the incident that took place yesterday between a unit of Estonian defense forces and Russian naval seamen, the government today suspended the execution of duties by officers of the general staff until all circumstances have been clarified. A government commission led by Minister of State Uno Veering has been set up to investigate the circumstances that took place at the motor pool on Marja street in Tallinn. According to the government press service, the government has condemned the arbitrary actions of some individual defense force commanders at the takeover of premises belonging to the Russian Army, inasmuch as a corresponding government commission deals with those issues and the task of the commission is to resolve any debate in a civilized manner.

New Defense Ministry Appointments Noted

LD2707161792 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1400 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Summary] The Government has appointed Ants Laaneots as chief of staff of the Estonian Defense Forces; previously he was acting chief of staff. Hannes Walter was appointed deputy defense minister. Mehis Pilv has been relieved from the post of director general of the Foreign Economic Department as the department has been abolished.

Further on Fifth Round of Talks With Russia

Talks Seen as Difficult

MK2507124092 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 25 July 92 p 3

[Yelena Visens report under "Talks" rubric: Russia-Estonia: Talks Were Tense. Fifth Round Was Less Resultful Than Previous Rounds"]

[Text] This week the latest, fifth, round of Russian-Estonian talks took place in the government's country boarding house in Lokhusalu (near Tallinn). It was preceded by meetings of four expert groups for social, border, economic, and humanitarian and legal problems. The greatest result of these consultations was achieved by the working group on border questions. An understanding in principle was reached that, in one week's time, from 1 August Russian border guards will terminate their activity in Estonia's western and northern border sectors and the guarding of the state border will be passed over to Estonian border guards. The relevant agreement was not signed during the talks themselves, but this was merely for technical reasons (since it is a question of an interstate treaty, the text has to be agreed in the parliaments, after which the document will be signed in a working form). Differences of opinion arose on the question of border troops' property and the deadline for their complete withdrawal from Estonian territory. According to an Estonian Supreme Council decision, all the property of former Soviet troops is deemed to be the republic's property. However, the Russian delegation is insisting on the sale of some of this property, primarily of those border installations, posts, and equipment that Estonian border guards do not need (this is over one-half of the Russian Border Troops' property). From the proceeds of the sale of this property the Russian side would be able to erect a new Russian-Estonian border more quickly and pull back there the border troops now stationed in Estonia. The Estonian side is demanding the withdrawal of Russian border guards (numbering 1,500 men) by 1 January 1993, while the Russian side considers their complete withdrawal posssible only by 31 May 1993. The Estonians' demands to pull border guards units back to the border line established in 1920 by the Tartu peace treaty between Estonia and Russia (that is, east of the current administrative and territorial border between the two states) provoked a sharp protest from the Russian delegation.

On the whole, the current talks were not as productive as the previous talks in terms of the signing of specific agreements. They bore the definite imprint of recent events: attacks by Estonian armed formations ("Kaitseliit" detachments) on Russian military units, and the Russian Supreme Soviet resolution regarding human rights in Estonia. Yet the Estonian side's desire to continue the talks broken off in the third round on the withdrawal of Russian troops from the republic's territory was a positive feature. Although the sides continue to insist on their positions regarding the deadlines for the withdrawal of troops (Russia is adhering to 1997 and Estonia to the end of 1992), the Russian side has agreed to withdraw by the "Estonian" deadline around one-fourth of all Russian troops stationed here—over 40 military units (around 6,000 men). The article-by-article discussion of the treaty on the procedure and deadlines for the withdrawal of troops and the status of Russian military subunits temporarily stationed on Estonian territory was continued and a directive on a temporary border crossing procedure for servicemen (those traveling on official business, on leave, and so on) was agreed.

The talks on economic cooperation were difficult. However, it was possible to agree on telephone and mail communications, the division of radio frequencies, and other things.

The Russian delegation was disappointed that the Estonian side was again unprepared to hold talks on settling citizenship questions, which is a priority question for Russians. These questions were discussed merely in a working group, but were not raised at the talks themselves.

Russia To End Guarding of Sea Border

LD2407171992 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1100 GMT 24 Jul 92

[Text] Russia's servicemen will stop guarding the sea borders of Estonia beginning 1 August. Such an agreement has been reached by experts of the working groups at Estonian-Russian talks.

One other task is handing over border facilities under the jurisdiction of Estonia. Russia's delegation said it is impossible to complete the withdrawal of all border guards from Estonia before 31 May 1993. As for the Estonian delegation, it insists that this be done no later than 1 January of next year.

New Russian Army Real Estate Deals Prohibited

LD2707144892 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1700 GMT 24 Jul 92

[Excerpts] ETA reports that government chairman Tiit Vahi signed a resolution today stating that existing real estate deals between the Russian Army and any Estonian organizations or individuals are to be registered with the Ministry of Defense. [passage omitted]

The resolution bans any further deals with former USSR Armed Forces formations in respect of land, buildings, or structures acquired on the territory of the Republic of Estonia.

Russian Communications Service Unit Departs

LD2807043192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0335 GMT 28 JUl 92

[Text] Tallinn, 27 July (ETA-TASS)—Radiotechnical Military Unit 25607 of the Russian Army, stationed on the Estonian island of Saaremaa, left Estonian territory on the night of 27 July.

An army column of 12 vehicles left Saaremaa on Friday, and on Monday, movement toward St. Petersburg began. Two vehicles with communications equipment were handed over to the Estonian side.

Commander of the unit Lt. Col Anatoliy Tantserev told ETA that the final destination of the column was the town of Cherepovets. He said the officers' families would leave Estonia shortly.

Robert Sinimyagi, Consultant of the State Chancellery, stressed that the communications men had left the military facility in good shape.

Arms Shipments to Narva Reported, Denied

OW2707132192 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1217 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Commissar of the Narva section of the Estonian border Tony Kiljak told in an interview with newspaper Severnoye Poberezhye that, according to Estonian special services, several consignments of small arms had been brought to Narva. Kiljak does not know yet in whose hands the weapons currently are. He said, however, that "the Narva-based Bltiyets set up an armed grouping of around 1000 men whose members take turn to fight in Dniester."

Chairman of the Narva city council Vladimir Chuikin told news agency REFAK that this report was a "falsehood."

Chief director of the special service Jan Toots told BF [BALTFAX] that he had no information concerning the delivery of weapons to Narva. "There are nothing but rumors," said he.

Cooperation Agreement Signed With Denmark

LD2807134792 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 0900 GMT 28 Jul 92

[Report by foreign affairs commentator Peeter Kaldre]

[Excerpts] In connection with the Danish queen's visit, Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen has arrived in Estonia. This morning he met his Estonian colleague Jaan Manitski. A Danish-Estonian agreement on economic, industrial, and technical cooperation was signed.

What did the foreign ministers discuss? Over to Uffe Ellemann-Jensen.

[Begin Ellemann-Jensen recording in English] I had very fruitful discussions with my colleague this morning. We touched upon the issues that lie right at the heart of the question of political stability in this part of Europe; that is, the question of the presence of foreign troops on Estonian soil and the so-called minority issue. [passage omitted]

I was informed of the incident yesterday when foreign troops opened fire. I voiced my indignation. The Danish Government views this incident as violation of international laws. This incident emphasizes once again the need to conclude an agreement for a speedy withdrawal of the foreign troops from the independent Baltic states.

We understand the difficulties of the Russian Government. We are currently working on an international agreement according to which the Western states will help to build housing for soldiers leaving the Baltic countries. Denmark is taking an active part in this. [passage omitted] [end recording]

So what does the agreement concluded today contain and mean? Over to Jaan Manitski.

[Begin Manitski recording] [passage omitted] Now the new agreement has improved, strengthened, and extended the old one. It is a framework that will provide a foundation on the basis of which the economic development between the two states, and the two economies, can be strengthened in a broad sense. So I see it as a very, very extensive and a very beneficial agreement for us, for our economy. I hope also beneficial for Denmark. [end recording]

Uffe Ellemann-Jensen added that the Danish assistance will concern primarily privitization in Estonia and joint ventures. [passage omitted]

Government Discusses Need of Further Credits

LD2707145792 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1700 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Text] The European Community is coordinating the activities of the world's leading industrial countries to find opportunities to provide over $100 million credit to Estonia. This is what Clyde Kull, Estonian ambassador at the EC, told the BALTIC NEWS SERVICE.

An extraordinary credit to support Estonia's balance of payments is due to cover the major part of Estonia's credit needs for next year, amounting to $190-210 million. As $71 million of this has already been covered by credit agreements or offers of credit, Estonia needs a further $120-140 million. A major part of this amount will probably come from the Nordic countries and from the EC, but some will also come from the United States and Japan.

The Estonian Government discussed issues connected with this credit at a closed session last night.

Lithuania

Protests Made Over Armed Russian Soldiers

LD2707215492 Vilnius Radio Vilnius in English 2130 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Text] The Lithuanian Foreign Ministry has issued a note of protest to the Russian Foreign Ministry against the Russian decision to arm its soldiers driving on the roads of Lithuania. The commander of the Northwestern Army Group has ordered all Russian servicemen driving on the Lithuanian roads to carry arms for alleged personal protection. The Lithuanian note states that orders of this kind violate Lithuanian sovereignty and contradict Russia's earlier obligations.

Abisala on Russian Troop Transit Agreement

LD2807155292 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1400 GMT 28 Jul 92

[Text] A report disseminated by ELTA concerning the statement by Prime Minister Aleksandras Abisala during his meeting with Wolfgang Groebl, Germany's first deputy minister of transport, about the possible transit of troops of the former Soviet Union from Germany through Lithuanian territory has been wrongly interpreted.

An ELTA correspondent asked Prime Minister Aleksandras Abisala to present the government's position on this issue.

As you know, the prime minister said, the troops of the former Soviet Union—Russian troops now—are being withdrawn from Germany besides the route via Mukran on the ferry to Klaipeda and across Lithuanian territory.

Indeed, we are not inclined to stop the withdrawal from Germany; we do not want to slow down the rate of the withdrawal because Lithuania is also interested in the withdrawal.

However, this must be arranged in legal terms. Until now, Russia has not yet concluded any agreement with us on the transit through Lithuania by the above troops, and Russia is not showing a great initiative on doing this.

Therefore, if such an agreement with the acceptable conditions to Lithuania is not concluded in the near future, we will not be able to allow this. I told this to the German first deputy minister of transport and asked that his government pressure Russia in order that such an agreement is discussed and reached as soon as possible. We would like both political and economic compensation for allowing this kind of transit through Lithuanian territory, Prime Minister Aleksandras Abisala said.

Vice Premier Believes in Trade With East, West

OW2707181192 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1635 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Report by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin from "Presidential Bulletin"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Lithuania's new vice-premier, Bronislovas Lubis, believes all restrictions imposed on the economy by the parliament and the former government should be lifted. In an interview with the government news agency ELTA, he said the republic "should open its doors to Western investment."

IF [INTERFAX] Note: Bronislovas Lubis, 54, is the only deputy prime minister in the new government. He is an engineer and was manager of one of the largest enterprises in Lithuania, Azotas, before he was appointed vice-premier.

Lubis is in favor of closer contacts with neighboring states. He thinks that, while Lithuania should be making efforts to get established in the Western market, it should keep its positions in the Eastern market at the same time.

Kropas, Simenas Head New Moderate Group

LD2607043292 Vilnius Radio Vilnius International Service in Lithuanian 2100 GMT 25 Jul 92

[Text] A movement of Lithuanian moderates has been formed. This was announced by Eugenijus Gentvilas,

parliament speaker and deputy in the Lithuanian Supreme Council. A statement on the formation of the party of moderates was signed by Stasys Kropas, who occupies the post of the minister without portfolio in the new government, and Albertas Simenas, economy minister and former prime minister.

According to the statement, the moderates of Lithuania support and strive to continue a constructive Sajudis policy and respect for human rights and property traditions, and not to blindly serve ideologies or persons. According to the moderates, to consolidate Lithuania's independence it is essential to strive for agreement among all political forces supporting independence, to establish an effective legal system, to continue economic reform, and to ensure economic ties with foreign states to eliminate economic dependence on the former Soviet Union.

According to the statement, concrete means of solving these problems will be described in the program of Lithuania's moderates.

Ethics Chairman Deplores Increase in Violence

LD2407121892 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1800 GMT 23 Jul 92

[Excerpts] At a briefing at the Supreme Council, Nikolajus Medvedevas, chairman of the Supreme Council's mandate and ethics commission, endeavored to assess the conflicts which took place last Tuesday [21 July] at the Supreme Council building and inside it.

These events have demonstrated gaps in laws and regulations, and these gaps must be eliminated as soon as possible, he stated.

First of all, why do incidents happen? The reason is the absence of a constitutional court in Lithuania. If we had a constitutional court, it would be much easier to solve many problems. There would be no pretext for conflicts. The other gap is the absence of a law on demonstrations. Therefore, the police and the Supreme Council's security guards were not sure how to behave in this situation. [passage omitted]

Nikilajus Medvedevas presented journalists with the commission's draft statement. The mandate and ethics commission is very concerned that conflicts are becoming more and more frequent between deputies. These conflicts often end in moral and physical violence. Tension and discord are aggravated by the fact that some members of the commission investigating KGB activity in Lithuania—for instance, deputy Povilas Varanauskas—have been publicizing material discrediting some deputies and others which has not been examined and confirmed by the court.

It is insulting and impermissible to attach pro-fascist or pro-communist labels to deputies without evidence or arguments.

The mandate and ethics commission condemns the unfounded political accusations made by deputies Bronius Genzelis and Rimvydas Valatka on 21 July this year. The commission says it is resolutely opposed to the acts of physical violence committed by deputies Vidmnante Jasiukaityte and Algirdas Patackas. The commission is determined to respond more actively to violations of ethics in parliament, but its work is hampered by the unwillingness of some of its members to take part in the commission's meetings. [passage indistinct] The commission chairman also stated that deputy Algirdas Patackas should resign from his post as member of the mandate and ethics commission.

Former Finance Minister 'Violated Law'

OW2707132492 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1217 GMT 27 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] State controller of Lithuania Kazimieras Uoka plans to demand that the new premier bring to book Elvyra Kuneviciene who had been finance minister at the Gediminas Vagnorius government. The agency's official statement in the press says that an audit revealed numerous transgressions of the formation and use of the hard currency fund and budgetary means. The Lithuanian Hard Currency Fund is administered by the Finance Ministry.

The State Control Department found that last May the former finance minister violated law when she allowed a state milk producer in the city of Utena not to pay a fine for tax evasion to the Lithuanian hard currency fund in the amount of 88,776 DM and 53,639 U.S. dollars.

Deputy Finance Minister A. Ivanauskas allowed Zalvaris, a state company processing scrap metals to withhold payment of a fine in the amount of 25,075 U.S. dollars to the hard currency fund.

In breach of regulations, some of the enterprises did not pay more than 78.2 mn. [million] rubles for the hard currency that had been extended to them from 1991 to March 1, 1992. Citing permission from the then premier Vagnorius, some agency failed to pay more than 8 mn. rubles for the hard currency they received.